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N. Y. Y. T.

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DATE 5 JAN 1959

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Powell Asks Aid for Cuba

Representative Adam Clayton Powell, Democrat of New York, called on the United States yesterday to recognize the new Cuban Government and grant it $200,000,000 in emergency aid. In a news conference, he also urged the recall of Earl E. T. Smith, United States Ambassador to Cuba, as a "pro-Batista man." The Congressman said he would telegraph his proposals to President Eisenhower.

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3/4

City Negroes and Puerto Ricans Set Up a Coordinating Council

By ROBERT ALDEN

Representatives of 126 Negro and Spanish-speaking organizations yesterday established a Council of Leaders that will coordinate their activities in safeguarding minority rights in the metropolitan area.

The council will be composed of the leaders of the member organizations, all Negro or Latin American, elected city, state or Federal officials, all appointed Government officials of the rank of deputy commissioner or higher and others invited by a two-thirds vote of the council.

Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr., one of the moving forces in the establishment of the council, told the organization leaders yesterday that it would enable all minority groups in the city to speak militantly with a single voice.

Mr. Powell, who represents New York's Sixteenth Congressional District, said that the council would be politically nonpartisan but that it would attempt to obtain a high registration of Negro and Spanish-speaking voters at the polls.

Mr. Powell declined to serve as chairman of the council on the ground that such a move might be open to political interpretation. At yesterday's meeting, which took place in the auditorium of the United Mutual Life Insurance Company, 310 Lenox Avenue, the election of officers of the council was tabled until a later date.

The council has been in the process of organization for a year now, Mr. Powell said. He added that the people present at yesterday's formal establishment of the council represented groups with a total membership of 1,000,000.

To coordinate activities more fully it was decided to have two sets of officers—a Negro and a Spanish-speaking representative—for each position.

Committees were set up to deal with such problems as housing, employment, civil liberties, voter registration, medical care and civil rights.

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Harlem Office Staff

Powell Hires Ex-Cons' Kin

By FRANK LYNN,
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

Tangled Congressional payrolls took a new turn today as the World-Telegram learned that Rep. Adam Clayton Powell has on his staff the spouses of two ex-convicts who themselves had been employed by the Harlem Democrat before they fell afoul of the law.

The two, plus another Powell aid, rarely work at the Congressman's New York office where the government pays the rent. Instead they spend their time at a community center operated by and adjacent to Mr. Powell's Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem.

The Congressman's New York office is sublet from Charles Buchanan, the husband of Assemblywoman Bessie Buchanan of Harlem. Mr. Buchanan also operates a real estate business and the Savoy Ballroom Corp. from the same office and is paid by the government for Mr. Powell's portion of the office.

Two Paid $7000.

The Powell aids whose mates have served time for income tax evasion are Mrs. Beatrice Lennon, who is paid $7008 annually, and Howard T. Dodson, whose yearly salary is $7212.

Mrs. Lennon's husband, Acy, [redacted] was sentenced to a year and a day in jail for tax evasion and was released last year. He also faces a second indictment which alleges that he ran an income tax service at Mr. Powell's church and counseled clients to file fraudulent returns.

Mrs. Lennon and her husband, who, she said, is now unemployed, list two addresses, 2276 Seventh Ave. in Harlem and the Dorie Miller housing project in Corona, Queens. Prior to his jailing, Mr. Lennon was a Congressional aid of Mr. Powell.

Another former Powell Congressional aid, Mrs. Hattie Freeman Dodson, Howard's

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3/26/59

RE: Adam Clayton Powell

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[illegible] also jailed for in[illegible] tax evasion. She was [illegible] to seven months in [illegible] and fined $1000. Howard [illegible], 50, is on Mr. Powell's Congressional payroll and also is paid by the Abyssinian Baptist Church where he is music director.

Rarely Visit Office.

Mrs. Dodson, who lives with her husband at 2171 Madison Ave., is now one of 18 paid full-time workers for the church and the Adam Clayton Powell Sr. Community Center at 132 W. 138th St.

Mrs. Lennon, Mr. Dodson and another Powell Congressional aid, William J. Hampton, work at the community center and rarely go to the government-paid office at 310 Lenox Ave. Mr. Hampton also faces trial on an income tax charge as does Congressman Powell himself.

Mrs. Lennon said she had gone to 310 Lenox Ave. "just once or twice." Mr. Hampton, who is paid $5928 annually, said the office is "open for Congressional business when it is convenient for us and the constituents and not at times that may be convenient for newspapers."

Asked why the rarely used Lenox Ave. office was not surendered to save the government rent money, Mr. Hampton replied: "It is not our desire to save the government anything; we take the appropriation; we may be using the office full time 10 days from now." He asserted that the government gets the Congressman's community center quarters "for free."

Mr. Powell was asked the same question in Washington and replied that he didn't think it "wise to have government mail coming to the church." He added that the Lenox Ave. office also served constituents who preferred not to come to the community center to see him or his aids.

Mr. Hampton also has two addresses. He lists them as 120 W. 138th St. and the Dorie Miller project in Queens, [illegible] he and Acy Lennon ma[illegible] in 1954 when the project was spotlighted in a Senate probe of FHA scandals. They are not employed at the project now.

Mr. Hampton refused to discuss his two addresses on the ground that they were "personal matters."

"I live where it is convenient," he added. However, Mr. Powell said that the Harlem addresses of Mr. Hampton and Mrs. Lennon were merely "voting addresses" and that they actually lived in Corona.

Mr. Hampton is also a salesman for the Sulroy Realty Corp. at 166 W. 125th St. He said that he "dropped in" at the realty office every day but asserted that he hasn't made a sale in "many years" and hence has not been paid by the outfit.

Both Mr. Dodson and Mrs. Lennon conceded that they worked on both church and Congressional matters at the community center but neither could say how much time is devoted to each. Mr. Dodson said he kept "broken hours" and couldn't "pin down" how much time he works for church and Congressman.

Mrs. Lennon added that she works two nights a week at Mr. Powell's insurgent political club, the Alfred E. Isaac Club of Democrats at 2495 Seventh Ave.

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Help Sought By Strikers At Hospitals

Negro, Puerto Rican Groups to Get Bids

By Richard C. Wald

Non-professional workers on strike at six of the city's voluntary hospitals will try to gather more support today from Negro and Puerto Rican communities in Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx.

The focal point of their effort, dubbed "Operation Humanity," by the strikers' union, Local 1199, Retail Drug Employees Union, will be the Abyssinian Baptist Church at 132 W. 138th St. in Harlem.

At 11:30 a.m. and again at 1:30 p.m. they hope to be able to transport several busloads of worshippers from the church to the picket lines established in front of Mt. Sinai hospital, one of the six struck institutions.

Blessing by Powell

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, jr., D., N. Y., minister of the church, has given the idea his blessing, urged his parishioners last week to be ready to make the trek today and has said, according to spokesmen at Abyssinian Baptist, that he, too, will go to the picket line. The Congressman was out of town and unavailable yesterday, they said.

In the other two boroughs the attempt will be to draw persons to the picket lines at the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn and at Bronx Hospital. According to the union, both the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Urban League are co-operating.

The N. A. A. C. P. has already urged the hospitals to grant recognition to the union—the sole issue in the strike—and said yesterday that its aid today will be extended through local branches rather than the national office.

Claim Exploitation

All of this brings to the fore a point made consistently by the union throughout the strike which began May 8. The union pointed out that 80 to 85 per cent of the striking workers are Negroes and Puerto Ricans and claims that the low wages paid to them is actually a form of racial exploitation. The hospitals have uniformly held that this charge is "ridiculous."

Involved in the strike, aside from the three to be intensively picketed today, are Lenox Hill, Beth Israel and Beth David hospitals. Several others are threatened with strikes.

The Hospital Association, a spokesman for all the voluntary hospitals in the city, said yesterday that it is continuing its preparations for the legal battles in which it hopes to obtain permanent injunctions against the strike and contempt citations against the union leaders.

The association also said that its member hospitals are continuing to replace striking workers with permanent employees, "and the labor supply is so good that we are able to do a good bit of screening. We may even get more skilled help than we had before."

N. Y. Herald Tribune
Late City
5/24/59

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THE PRIMARY FIGHTS

By OLIVER PILAT *Article V*

For the second year in a row Rep. Adam Clayton Powell and Tammany Boss DeSapio are pitted against each other for the political control of restive Harlem.

A year ago both men were at the peak of their political powers.

But time has been unkind to them.

Loss of the state machinery has weakened DeSapio's power and prestige. For vote-getting purposes his name is now considered a handicap.

Powell, a vigorous, dynamic personality, has been sidelined by illness. In Puerto Rico recovering from an appendectomy, he is due back here next week to campaign for the leadership in his own district.

Powell's showmanship, oratory and occasional intemperateness have been missing from the Harlem fight, which is to be settled at the polls on Sept. 15.

Certainly Harlem remembers last year's efforts by DeSapio and Borough President Hulan Jack to block Powell's renomination to Congress. It was one of the bitterest political dogfights, charged with overtones of racism, waged here in recent years. Powell called DeSapio "Massah Carmine" and the Borough President "Overseer Jack." They in turn accused Powell of demagoguery and of inciting racism.

Not the old Harlem

Powell won easily. There were attempts to reconcile both sides but the deals fell through after DeSapio's crushing statewide defeat. Now the battle is being waged all over again, under somewhat different circumstances.

Basically, the outcome of the five primary fights in the Harlem area will determine whether the DeSapio-Jack forces or Powell will run the city's largest Negro section.

How long the alignments resulting from the primaries will last is a subject of much speculation. Certainly there are signs of growing resentment against strongmen and Bossism—from any quarter. At least two of the five contests show indications of this.

It is a fact, too, that Harlem is not as significant among Negroes as it was. Between 1950 and 1957, its population decreased by 50,000.

In 1950 there were hardly any Negroes on the Lower East Side. There are now about 15,000 in that area.

DeSapio's own Greenwich Village district, where he is fighting for his own leadership, has doubled its Negro population.

There are now also heavily Negro areas in South Jamaica, the Bronx, and the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn. Other sections and the suburbs are being penetrated by families leaving congested Harlem.

Many Negroes migrating here from the South g

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directly to five in these newer areas instead of making the traditional stop in Harlem.

Two of the five Harlem primary contests seem most clearly to represent new community focus.

One of these, in the 11th A.D., is between Assemblyman Lloyd Everett Dickens, the incumbent leader, and Percy E. Sutton, attorney and perennial insurgent.

Dickens is not being opposed by the Powell forces because he stood up for Powell in the Tammany Executive Committee last year.

Sutton has stirred new political interest in his district. His Central Democratic Club acquired 150 new members in just three weeks. The club's political school attracts Negroes and whites from faraway Rockland and Queens. The club seems to emphasize community activities and to deemphasize stress on race.

Dickens' running mate is Alice Watson, who is no relation to Sen. Watson, candidate for leader in another district. Sutton's candidate for female leader is Beatrice Ellis, a widow, registered nurse and community worker.

Probably the most interesting of the five primaries is the three-cornered race in the 13th East. The incumbent is Antonio T. Rasmus, a burly fellow who was cleared in a grand jury investigation last year of allegedly demanding and getting kickbacks from his district captains. Many captains deserted him and now he has two rivals.

One is Sen. James L. (Skiz) Watson, son of the city's first Negro judge and the first Negro to sit in the state's highest legislative body. Although a Tammany stalwart, Watson has demonstrated keen community interest and has attracted support from former State Parole Commissioner Herbert Evans and ex-Rent Administrator Weaver.

Watson has pledged to run an "open club" on a reform basis if elected. His running mate is Edythe Fabian.

The third candidate is J. Raymond (The Fox) Jones, an oldline Tammany leader and jobholder who successfully ran Powell's campaign for the Democratic designation for Congress last year.

A nimble politician, Jones also has jumped on the reform bandwagon. He voluntarily took the so-called Ryan pledge (originated by William Fitts Ryan, reform leader 7th AD) "not to seek, or accept if offered, a political job" if elected. He has aligned himself, too, with the Roosevelt-Lehman-Finletter group, who have not noticeably reciprocated his embrace.

Jones' candidate for co-leader is Minetta Anderson, a widow and church organist who runs a Harlem employment agency.

3 Tests of Strength

Three of the races are basically tests of strength between the DeSapio-Jack forces and Powell.

In the 14th A.D., South, young John Lee Edmunds, a lawyer with NAACP affiliations, is running for leader against Jack himself, the wily and veteran incumbent. Edmunds, who is Powell's man, has found the going tough against the Borough President, who has spread patronage and civic improvements in his district with a generous hand.

An interesting feature in this race is that Edmunds' campaign manager is Herbert C. Bruce, once a leader and still a power in the district. Jack's campaign manager is Carson DeWitt Baker, who was forced to resign as a Municipal Court Bench Judge after he was branded a "scofflaw" for piling up traffic tickets.

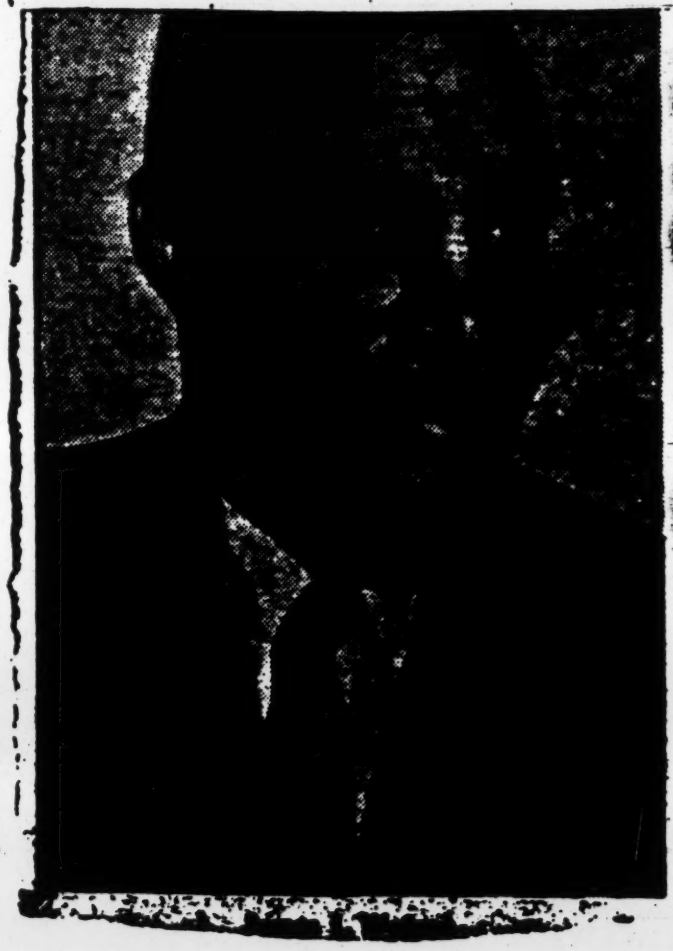
Powell has been waging, in absentia, his own campaign in the 12th A.D. South, against incumbent Elijah Crump. Even Crump is feebly voicing reform this year, promising to consult with his county committee ig reelected. Crump is hammering away at Powell for indorsing Sen. Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson of Texas as a candidate for President acceptable to Negroes.

Powell's candidate in the 12th [illegible] North is Mark T. Houthall. Like the other Powell candidates, Southall has a letter of indorsement from Powell to circulate among the enrolled Democratic voters in his district.

He faces the veteran Cecil E. Carter, who runs the Harriman Democratic Club at 2005 Amsterdam Av. Carter also has a payroll job as Director of Research in Jack's office.

Of more interest, perhaps, than the leadership contests themselves is the fight for Municipal Court Justice in Harlem's 8th District. This district is about 80 per cent Negro and Puerto Rican but has always been represented politically by candidates of Italian extraction.

Jawn Sandifer, a Negro lawyer, is seeking to break this tradition—if he manages to stay in the race despite efforts by his opponents to knock him off the ballot. Sandifer originally had Powell's backing but for unknown reasons Powell's support was withdrawn.



Adam Clayton Powell

Helen Jack

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POWELL FIGHT TAMMANY HALL

Seeks to Unseat 4 Leaders In His District—Runs for One of Posts Himself

By LAYHMOND ROBINSON

Across Harlem's tenement-studded terrain a fierce, exhausting and bizarre political war is heading toward its second showdown in two years.

The war is the outgrowth of a power struggle between two formidable Democratic factions for a valuable prize. The prize is political control of a territory that has remained overwhelmingly Democratic in one election after another since early New Deal days.

The antagonists are the forces of Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. and the Democratic county committee headed by Carmine G. De Sapio.

Their family fight over the right to represent Harlem's voters has kept the predominantly Negro area in a high state of agitation for nearly two years.

The struggle has embittered some voters and puzzled others. It has also brought some rare entertainment to Harlem's hot and crowded streets.

Anti-Tammany Drive

The Powell-Tammany feud this year centers on a drive by the Powell forces to oust Tammany leaders from four assembly districts that lie either wholly or partly within Mr. Powell's Sixteenth Congressional District.

The 50-year-old Mr. Powell is an insurgent candidate for leader in one of these districts. He is seeking to dethrone Elijah L. Crump, 57-year-old business man and Tammany incumbent, in the Twelfth Assembly District, South, where Mr. Crump has been leader for four years.

In another key race, a Powell-backed candidate is seeking to replace Hulan E. Jack, Manhattan Borough President, as leader of the Fourteenth Assembly District, West, a party office Mr. Jack has held since 1948. The challenger is John L. Edmonds, 32-year-old lawyer.

The showdown date, or Judgment Day, as it is sometimes called in Harlem, is next Tuesday, when party members vote in the primary election.

The Tammany-Powell hostilities originally began on May 15 of last year. On that day the Tammany leaders in Mr. Powell's Congressional district voted, with one exception, to refuse him the party's renomination for Representative, a post he had held for fourteen years.

Powell Rewards Friend

Significantly, the Tammany leader who stood by Mr. Powell then—Assemblyman Lloyd R. [illegible] of the Thirteenth Assembly District—is not being opposed by Mr. Powell or any of his followers for the leadership this year.

This fact, however, did not prevent an energetic young lawyer, Percy E. Sutton, from challenging Mr. Dickens for the leadership in the Eleventh A. D.

Mr. Sutton, 39, disclaims any affiliation with either the Powell or Tammany camp. Mr. Dickens, 57, is a real estate broker, whose family has been politically active in the area for more than a quarter century. His battle with Mr. Sutton completes the list of five leadership contests in the Sixteenth Congressional District.

In refusing to support Mr. Powell for the nomination for Representative last spring, the Harlem leaders, including Mr. Jack, contended that he had betrayed the Democratic party by backing President Eisenhower, a Republican, in the 1956 Presidential race. They dubbed him "Mr. Turncoat."

The Tammany decision to drop Mr. Powell came shortly after his indictment by a Federal grand jury here on charges of income tax evasion, though it was denied that this had figured in the decision. Trial on the charges is still pending.

The Harlem Representative was quick to strike back. He charged that Tammany was trying to "crucify" him because he had never been "a hat-in-hand Negro" who took orders from Mr. De Sapio.

He castigated Mr. De Sapio as a "plantation boss" and denounced the Harlem Democratic leaders, particularly Mr. Jack, as "plantation hands and Uncle Toms who jump when the boss cracks the whip."

Rallying his supporters, he announced that he would run as an independent for the nomination. Tammany Hall countered by putting up City Councilman Earl L. Brown, an assistant editor of the magazine Life, to run against him.

Big Victory for Powell

Employing his well-known "give-em-hell" style of oratory, Mr. Powell pounded away at the "bossism" theme. He trounced Mr. Brown by a 3-1 margin in the Aug. 12 primaries. He thus won the first showdown in his war with Tammany.

Can the Powell team do it again? As the second showdown nears, opinion among political non-partisans in Harlem is sharply divided.

Some observers in the area believe that the Powell slate, which again this year is hammering away on the "bossism" and "Uncle Tom" issues, can sweep the four races in which its candidates are entered.

But a significant number of persons close to the Harlem scene feel that Mr. Powell and his allies are in for heavy weather in their attempt to dislodge all four leaders.

These observers cite several factors that may cause a majority of Harlem's Democratic

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voters to throw their weight behind all or most of the incumbent Democratic leaders in the primary.

For one thing, these analysts point out, the Harlem Tammany leaders have made strenuous efforts to endear themselves to the voters since last year's setback. They note that the Tammany incumbents have stepped up the dispensation of patronage and broadened their usual list of personal services to constituents.

Most active of all Tammany leaders in this area, these observers note, has been Borough President Jack, who has been carrying out what has been nicknamed "Hulan's Crusade" against slum conditions in the area.

Mr. Jack himself argues that he is not a Johnny-come-lately in the fight against slums. He says his reason for stepping up the drive against poor housing conditions at this time is that these conditions have been growing worse. His attack on poor housing conditions has gained him considerable publicity in the newspapers.

Service Is Stressed

Mr. Jack and the other Tammany candidates are stressing their records of services to the community. A feature of their campaign is the contention that they have more power to obtain jobs and civic betterment for Harlem within the regular organization than the Powell followers have as independents.

The Powell group argues that its opponents have developed "a fake, overnight interest" in slums and other matters in Harlem. In his campaign against Mr. Jack in the Fourteenth Assembly District West, Mr. Edmonds charges that "these slums have been festering for years and if Uncle Tom Jack wanted to do something about them he could have years ago."

He and others in the Powell camp argue that they would provide more democratic leadership and can be more responsive to the wishes of the people. They describe the political jobs the Tammany leaders have parceled out in their district as "crumbs, not plums."

The observers who contend that the Powell slate is in for a rugged fight also note that up to last week-end Mr. Powell had not done any campaigning either for himself or his three running-mates.

He underwent an emergency appendectomy on July 30, and only last Saturday returned from Puerto Rico, where he had been recuperating. Mr. Powell, a fiery orator who has few peers on the sound trucks, has hit the campaign trail, however, and appears to have shifted into high gear.

Truce Last Year Recalled

However, J. Raymond Jones, former Tammany power who is running as an insurgent on the Powell ticket in the Thirteenth Assembly District East, discounts the entry into the fray has harmed the group's chances.

"The people already know what our team stands for," he says. "They know that our basic aim has always been to reform Tammany Hall and a few speeches won't make that much difference."

There is still another factor that may affect the ability of the Powell slate to sweep the leadership contests, it is said.

This is the possibility that Mr. Powell may have damaged his reputation as an anti-Tammany crusader last fall when, after his triumph over Mr. Brown, he effected a reconciliation with Tammany to campaign for Gov. W. Averell Harriman.

This caused anger and resentment among some Powell supporters who thought the Harlem Representative would remain independent. By the same token, these observers noted, these same supporters might be puzzled by Mr. Powell's decision to resume the war against Tammany after last year's truce.

Mr. Powell has contended that the reconciliation last year was for the good of Harlem. He also said he would not go back on his pledge to "clear out the Tammany wreckage" in this year's leadership fights. The "wreckage" was his term for those Tammany leaders who opposed him for the nomination for Representative.

Mr. Crump, Mr. Powell's opponent in the Twelfth Month, has charged that Mr. Powell wants to be married to and divorced from Tammany at the same time. He has also accused the Harlem Representative of spending very little time in Harlem and contends that "he is a part-time Congressman, but he would be a no-time district leader."

Mr. Crump, a tough political in-fighter, has further pounded at Mr. Powell for the assertion that he was considering backing Senator Lyndon Johnson of Texas, a Southerner, for the Presidency next year.

"It's a sad day when a Negro backs a Southern politician for anything," Mr. Crump declared.

Next to the Powell-Crump and Jack-Edmonds contests, the most interesting and in some respects the most curious leadership tussle in Harlem is the three-way battle in the Thirteenth East.

Contending for the right to represent this district's voters are Mr. Jones, Antonio T. Rasmus, the Tammany incumbent, and State Senator James L. Watson, making his first leadership bid.

Mr. Jones, 59, and a business man, was Tammany leader of the district from 1944 to 1952. He is now trying to regain it as an anti-Tammany candidate, having broken with "the Hall" last year when he managed Mr. Powell's primary fight against Mr. Brown.

He charges that Mr. Rasmus is "nothing but a De Sapio puppet" and suggests that Senator Watson entered the race at Mr. De Sapio's bidding in an effort to split the votes and block his attempt to regain the district.

Youthful Leadership Sought

Mr. Watson, who is 37, says

his aim is to bring "youthful and aggressive" leadership to the area and denies that Mr. De Sapio had anything to do with his decision to run.

He charges that voters of the district have no confidence in Mr. Rasmus and Mr. Jones. He contends that Mr. Jones, as a Tammany leader for eight years, "was a representative of and a participant in all the evils he now condemns." He says Mr. Jones would be as much of a boss as Mr. Rasmus. "I am as much opposed to uptown bosses as I am to downtown bosses," he asserts.

Mr. Rasmus, 44, and secretary to Board of Elections Commissioner Dennis J. Mahon, accuses both Mr. Jones and Mr. Watson of seeking the district leadership for "selfish ends." He says he has represented the people in the area better than anyone in the past and is content to run on his record.

The fight that is causing the least commotion is the one in the Twelfth A. D. North. There Mark T. Southall, a real estate broker backed by Mr. Powell, is challenging Cecil E. Carter, real estate broker and also the research director in Mr. Jack's office. Mr. Southall, a bachelor of 48, is running on the "bossism" issue and Mr. Carter, who is 68 and has been leader since 1955, is running on "my good record, which everybody knows about."

As these fights move toward a showdown, Harlem's people may not be certain about who is going to win them. But of this they are certain: These struggles have produced bitterness and cleavages in the community that will remain long after the hot winds of political debate have blown away.

Powell Hits Tammany's Job Policies

Asks Bigger Role For Negro, Puerto Rican

By Laurence Barrett

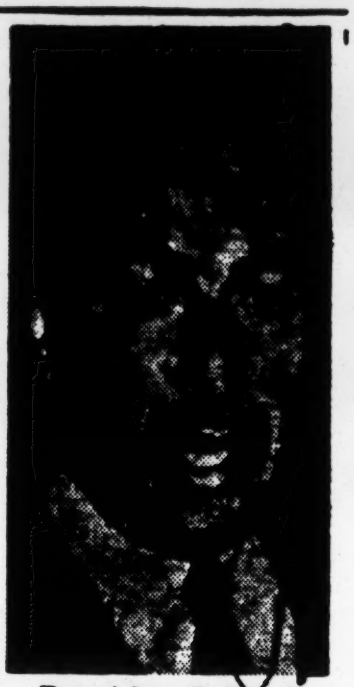
Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, the Harlem Democrat who is seking to unseat four Tammany Hall district leaders in the Sept. 15 primary election, said yesterday that if his group won it would fight to have one-third of all political appointments in Manhattan go to Negroes and Puerto Ricans.

Himself a candidate for the leadership in Harlem's Twelfth Assembly District South, Rep. Powell charged that Tammany's racial policy was unfair and out-of-date. "Back at the turn of the century," he said, "there were no Puerto Ricans in Manhattan and only 10 per cent of the population was Negro. I predict that the 1960 census will find that Negroes and Puerto Ricans make up at least 50 per cent of the county's people."

Despite this population shift he said, Tammany Hall—that is, the regular Democratic organization in New York County—sticks to its traditional practice of replacing officials with persons of the same race, religion and ethnic background as the previous incumbent.

"Want to Do This Slowly"

"We are not asking for appointments on a 1-to-1 basis,' Rep. Powell said, "because we want to do this thing slowly. We think 1-to-2 is fair."



Rep. Adam C. Powell

He made his statement in a press conference at the Alfred E. Isaac Club for Democrats 2405 Seventh Ave. This is the club Mr. Powell organized last summer when he successfully fought a primary contest for renomination as Congressman.

Rep. Powell attacked Mayor Wagner and his administration for "callous disregard" of the housing needs of Negroes and Puerto Ricans. He said an example of both this indifference and the discriminatory political appointment policy was the naming on Aug. 11 of three new members to the Slum Clearance committee. "Although no group has so much at stake in slum clearance as Negroes and Puerto Ricans,' Rep. Powell said, "none of the new members was a Negro or a Puerto Rican."

Rep. Powell predicted that he would win his dictrict leadership fight by a 3-to-1 margin and that the three other insurgents whom he is supporting wolud also be successful. In a fifth Harlem race, Mr. Powell is backing the incumbent against an independent challenger.

He said his campaign would be built around the discrimination and "bossism" issues.

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POWELL TRIAL DELAYED

Surgery for Hernia to Delay His Tax Case Until Oct. 21

The Federal Court trial of Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. on charges of evading income tax was postponed yesterday from Oct. 5 to Oct. 21.

Mr. Powell will undergo surgery for a hernia at the Naval Hospital at Bethesda, Md.

Mr. Powell's lawyer, Edward Bennett Williams, asked for the adjournment to give the Harlem Congressman time to recuperate.

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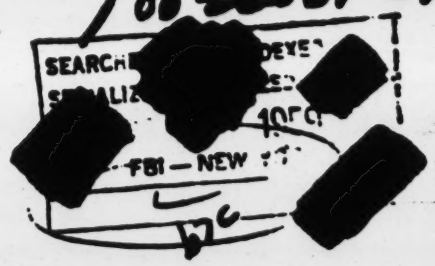

Tax-Evasion Trial Of Powell Put Off

The oft-postponed income-tax-evasion trial of Harlem Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, scheduled to begin "definitely" on Oct. 5, has been postponed again, on account of illness.

Edward Bennett Williams, Powell's attorney, won a postponement until Oct. 19 in Federal Court yesterday after explaining to Judge Richard H. Levet that Powell, 50, plans to undergo a hernia operation Sept. 17. Powell was indicted on the tax charges May 8, 1958.

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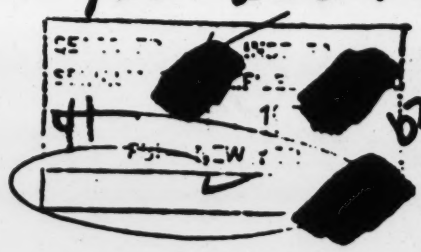

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Heard Around City Hall

Drive on County Leader Post Poses Red Threat to De Sapio

Heard Around City Hall, a weekly roundup of behind-the-scenes news, appears each Friday. Today's column was compiled by Richard J. Roth, Frank Lynn, Bernard Frisher and Henry Walter.

The real threat to Carmine De Sapio's Tammany leadership is posed by an insurgent drive to line up enough votes to dump him from the key county leader post at next Thursday's executive committee meeting. Figuring that with the successful Adam Clayton Powell forces in Harlem, six and two-thirds of the committee's 16 votes will be thrown into the "dump De Sapio" column, the "reform" Democratic insurgents are feverishly trying to set up alliances with some or all of seven district leaders whose feelings for the Tammany chieftain are believed to be less than warm.

The drive, which would provide the insurgents with some strange bedfellows, is aimed at lining up at least four of the leaders against Mr. De Sapio. That number is needed to give the insurgents a clear-cut majority. The leaders being wooed are State Sen. John H. Farrell, 3rd Assembly District; Councilman Louis Okin, 3rd A. D.; Leonard Cohen, 5th A. D.; Rep. Ludwig Teller, 5th A. D.; James J. Farley, 8th A. D.; State Sen. John P. Morrissey, 10th A. D., and Antonio Mendez, 14th A. D.

The insurgents are confident they can pull some of the committee's other nine and one-third votes into their camp. But if they don't succeed in getting the number they need, they won't pull any punches in explaining how the weakened Mr. De Sapio may be a distinct liability to his supporters in future primary fights.

Threatened court action to invalidate Mr. De Sapio's election as district leader and thus topple him from the powerful county leader job doesn't really place him in jeopardy. It can be blocked by changing the bylaws under which the county committee is organized when the committee holds its reorganization meeting next Tuesday at Manhattan Center.

The De Sapio forces estimate that they will have from 2000 to [redacted] county [redacted] their way [redacted] demand [redacted] Tammany [redacted] seizure of [redacted] in force.

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If Mr. De Sapio carries out his reported intention to surrender his county chairman post, his actual power would not be appreciably diminished. The chairman's job is primarily a clerical one, and the real power lies in the county leader post, which will be fought for at the executive committee meeting next Thursday.

• • •

Mr. De Sapio will run into some more trouble Wednesday when the Democratic State Committee meets in Albany to nominate Judge Charles S. Desmond as successor to the retiring chief judge of the Court of Appeals, Albert Conway. Many upstate Democrats are convinced that Mr. De Sapio must go as a national committeeman, in view of his poor performance in Manhattan.

• • •

Cab drivers who had a hand in the defeat of City Councilman Edward Vogel's handpicked candidate for the Assembly in Brooklyn are feeling their political oats. The cabbies were out for Mr. Vogel's scalp because he bounced them out of a City Council hearing several months ago. Now they will poll the other city councilmen for their views on repeal of the unpopular cab fare tax and are threatening to battle any lawmaker who doesn't favor repeal.

• • •

William J. Dwyer Jr., $13,700 deputy commissioner of real estate, will resign next week to become $15,000 executive assistant to J. Anthony Panuch, who was picked by Mayor Robert F. Wagner to do a comprehensive study of the city's housing problems.

Mr. Dwyer will then be in the ironic position of investigating his present boss, Real Estate Commissioner J. Clarence Davies Jr., in Mr. Davies' new capacity as member of the Mayor's Slum Clearance Committee. The slum committee, headed by Robert Moses, is one of Mr. Panuch's chief targets.

• • •

Department of Commerce and Public Events, which is supposed to drumbeat the city's business opportunities, gave a big plug in a recent publication to a luxury beach club in Southampton, L. I.

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Rebels Flop, DeS Renamed County Chief

By DICK LEE

Tammany Leader Carmine DeSapio delivered the final blow to the Lehman -Roosevelt- Finletter revolt against his Democratic Party leadership yesterday when he was reelected county leader by a vote of 10-6 in the county committee's executive board.

Carmine DeSapio

The six votes against him were cast by the insurgent Lehmanites elected as district leaders in the recent primary and the Harlem dissidents led by Rep. Adam Clayton Powell. Three and a half votes against DeSapio came from the Lehman group and 2½ from the Harlemites.

After the vote Harlem leader Everett Dickens moved that the DeSapio election be made unanimous and the motion was seconded by Powell. Even the Lehmanites went along with that.

Elects His Chairman, Too

DeSapio scored another victory with the election of State Sen. John P. Morrissey, leader in Mayor Wagner's home district, as chairman of the executive committee. The Lehman rebels had entered a candidate, Millard Midonick of the 1st AD Middle, against Morrissey. That vote was 11¾-4½.

The Lehmanites held hope of heading off DeSapio's reelection right up the last minute. They tried in vain to get State Sen. John Farrell, leader in the 3d AD, to run against DeSapio and break up the DeSapio support.

Santangelo Named for Court

The executive committee also designated a candidate for the City Court, Municipal Justice Robert Santangelo, who comes from Duke Viggianni's 2d AD. He will run for the vacancy caused by the retirement of Justice John A. Byrnes.

The triumphant DeSapio engaged in no gloating over this final stage in his repulse of the Lehman-Roosevelt-Finletter revolt, which was really a battle for control of the New York delegation of 115 to next year's Presidential convention.

He contented himself with a plea for "unity among Democrats in the fight against the common enemy this year and next."

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Powell Sees A 'Rough' Operation

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, who will undergo surgery for a tumor next week, told his Harlem congregation yesterday he expected "a rough operation" and "will be away for quite a while."

"Whether my tumor is cancer or not, no one knows but God," declared the Harlem Democratic leader and minister of the Abyssinian Baptist Church at services at the 138th St. church.

Powell will leave for Bethesda, Md., Naval Hospital immediately after a rally in his honor at his church set for 3 p.m. Sunday. He described his illness as "a tumor in the left side of the esophagus, next to the left lung."

His trial in U. S. District Court on tax evasion charges has been postponed from this Friday to Nov. 16 because of the impending surgery.

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Powell Must Undergo 'Urgent' Tumor Surgery

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-N. Y.) is suffering from a possible malignant tumor and doctors consider surgery "urgent," his attorney said today.

Disclosure of the condition in the area of the esophagus was made by Edward Bennett Williams when he appeared before Judge Levet in Federal Court to ask further postponement of Congressman Powell's income tax evasion trial. It had been scheduled for Oct. 19.

Williams offered for the record a copy of a letter to him from Capt. R. B. Brown, chief surgeon at the Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., where Powell was admitted for a hernia operation.

Surgery Recommended

"Recent studies . . . indicated (Powell) has a small tumor mass in the mediastinum which causes some pressure on his esophagus," the letter said. "We have recommended operation to Congressman Powell, both as a diagnostic and therapeutic procedure.

"We have not been able with our studies to determine the exact nature of the mass. Since there is a possibility that it is a malignant tumor, we consider the surgery urgent in terms of a week or two."

On the strength of Williams' statement and the letter, Judge Levet granted a further trial postponement to Nov. 18.

Previously it had been postponed from Sept. 10 after Williams told the court Powell was to enter Bethesda for the hernia operation.

Accused of [illegible]

Judge Levet [illegible] Williams [illegible] undergone "within a reasonable time," the government could apply to have the case put back on the trial calendar any time before the new date.

Powell is charged in a May 1958 indictment with preparing a false 1951 income tax return for his wife, pianist Hazel Scott, and with evading $3,000 in a joint return in 1952. Miss Scott is not a defendant in the case. Powell is pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem.

Powell underwent an emergency appendectomy at Bethesda on July 30 after collapsing in his office earlier in the day. In April, while he was in Puerto Rico, he reportedly suffered a slight heart attack, but later this was denied and doctors said the difficulty was a siege of bronchitis complicated by an infection of both ears.

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Powell Faces Surgery, Asks Tax Trial Delay

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Harlem Democrat, is suffering from a possible tumor mass which causes pressure on his esophagus, his attorney disclosed today in Federal court.

It was announced that examining physicians consider early surgery "urgent."

The lawyer, Edward Bennett Williams, of Washington, D. C., appeared before Judge Richard H. Levet for a further postponement of Congressman Powell's income tax evasion trial, which had been scheduled definitely for October 19.

The 50-year-old congressman and clergyman succeeded last Sept. 19 in having his tax trial date postponed from last Monday to Oct. 19 when Mr. Williams told the court that Powell was scheduled to enter the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., on Sept. 28 for a hernia operation.

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FBI/DOJ

Powell Lists Demands in Slum Fight

Asks More City Jobs For Minority Groups

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell yesterday outlined a program for raising housing and health conditions in Harlem, and giving Negroes and Puerto Ricans more of a voice in city affairs. He told a rally of more than 2,000 well-wishers that there would be reprisals in the 1960 and 1961 elections if the program were not adopted.

The fifty-year-old politician-clergyman spoke from his pulpit in the Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 W. 138th St., before departing to the National Naval Medical Center at Bethesda, Md., where he will undergo surgery for a possibly malignant tumor on his esophagus tomorrow or Wednesday.

Medical Center Demand

The program he outlined and which he said "his team" would continue to fight for during his "six weeks or more" absence included:

1. Work for a promise that the proposed $28,000,000 Harlem Medical Center will be built before the Bellevue Medical Center is completed.

2. Construction of low-cost co-operative housing in Harlem under the state Mitchell-Lama housing act. He said there were eighteen such projects in the city, none of them for Negroes.

3. Appointment of Negroes and Puerto Ricans to the Mayor's Slum Clearance Committee and staff jobs in the slum clearance program.

For Relocation Center

4. Establishment of a central relocation bureau for slum clearance and the granting of priority to small business men in newly built projects. "We will refuse to move unless they give us at least the same kind of place or better quarters while the slum is being cleared," he said.

In a speech interrupted several times by applause, he called for unity among political leaders in Harlem and said that Lloyd Everett Dickens, "chairman of our team," would step down in favor of Hulan Jack, Manhattan Borough President, if he and Tony Mendez, the only Puerto Rican political district leader in Harlem, would join the group.

After the meeting, an aid said he had conferred with Mr. Jack on the proposal and that "talks are continuing."

Rep. Powell spoke after two choirs sang a hymn titled "Ain't Got Time to Die," which, he said, he had requested.

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Powell Surgery Today

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19 (UPI) —Representative Adam Clayton Powell, Manhattan Democrat, will undergo surgery at 8:30 A. M., tomorrow for the removal of a tumor on his esophagus, the Bethesda, Md., Naval Hospital reported today. The tumor was discovered last month.

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Powell Tax Trial Set For Jan. 7

The oft-postponed tax evasion trial of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell was set down for Jan. 7 yesterday by Federal Judge Edmund L. Palmieri.

Powell, 50, Harlem Democrat, was ordered by the judge to be ready for trial for that day. The trial had been postponed twice because of Powell's illness.

ASSISTANT U. S. Attorney Morton S. Robson explained that the last postponement on Oct. 19 was due to an operation on Powell for removal of a cyst. Robson said Powell's doctor said the Congressman would now be able to stand trial after a month's recuperation in the South.

Powell is charged with having prepared a false 1951 income tax return for his wife, pianist Hazel Scott, and with evading payment of $30,000 in taxes in a joint return in 1952.

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Powell Ordered to Trial on Jan. 7

In the latest move in the oft-postponed case, Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Harlem Democrat, was ordered yesterday in Federal Court to be ready to go to trial on Jan. 7 on income tax charges. Powell was indicted in May, 1958, for allegedly preparing a false return for his wife, pianist Hazel Scott, and for evading a $3,000 payment on a 1952 joint return. Miss Scott is not a defendant.

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Powell's Tax Trial Slated for Jan. 7

The New York Times

Adam Clayton Powell Jr.

The oft-postponed trial of Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. on income-tax evasion charges was set down yesterday by Federal Judge Edmund L. Palmieri for Jan. 7.

The 50-year-old Harlem Democrat had been scheduled to stand trial Oct. 5. But the case was adjourned because Mr. Powell entered Bethesda Naval Hospital in late September for a possible hernia operation, which never was performed.

While he was in the hospital it was discovered that he had a growth on his esophagus. At the end of October he underwent a chest operation, and a non-malignant cyst was removed.

Morton S. Robson, chief assistant United States attorney, said that the naval hospital surgeons had suggested that Mr. Powell go South for a month to recuperate.

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Surgery For Powell

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19 (UPI). Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D., N.Y.) is scheduled to undergo surgery this week for removal of a tumor on the esophagus. He entered the U.S. Navy Medical Center at Bethesda, Md., last night. His office said the date for the operation still had not been set.

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Powell Again Asks Delay in Tax Case

A postponement was sought yesterday in the income tax evasion trial of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, D., N. Y., scheduled "definitely" for Jan. 7. Mr. Powell was indicted in May, 1958, on charges of preparing a false 1951 return for his wife, Hazel Scott, and of evading $3,000 in a joint return in 1952. The trial has been postponed several times.

The Harlem Democrat's attorney, Edward Bennett Williams, asked Judge Thomas F. Murphy in United States District Court for more time to study an amended bill of particulars received from the government.

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Powell Delay, OKd by U.S.

The government said yesterday it would agree to a 30-day postponement of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell's income tax evasion trial, scheduled for Jan. 7.

Edward Bennett Williams, attorney for the 50-year-old Harlem Democrat, told Federal Judge Thomas F. Murphy the defense would need more than 30 days postponement. He said the government had indicated in an amended bill of particulars that it was shifting its position and now was claiming there were improper deductions made by Powell in a 1951 tax return for his wife, Hazel Scott, jazz pianist.

Judge Murphy reserved decision. He directed that the grand jury testimony in the case be given him for study.

Rep. Powell was indicted in May, 1958, on charges of having prepared a false 1951 income tax return for his wife, and of evading $3,000 in a joint return in 195

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Rep. Powell Gets Tax Trial Delay

The federal income tax evasion trial of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr. (D., N. Y.), scheduled for Jan. 7, has been postponed at least a month.

The oft-delayed trial hit its latest snag yesterday. The government announced it would agree to the postponement requested by Edward Bennett Williams, the attorney for the Harlem Democrat. Mr. Williams had contended he needed the time because the government, "on the eve of the trial," had submitted an amended bill of particulars adopting a new line of prosecution.

Mr. Williams filed a motion before Judge Thomas F. Murphy to strike the amended bill from the record or give the defense time to meet the "new" charges.

Mr. Powell, 50, is charged with filing a fraudulent income tax return in 1951 for his wife, Hazel Scott, the jazz pianist. Miss Scott, however, is not a defendant. He is also accused of evading $3000 in a joint return in 1952.

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POWELL TRIAL PUT OFF

March 7 is Set to Give Time for Defense on New Charges

Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr., in Federal Court yesterday, obtained a postponement of his trial for income tax evasion until March 7. It had been scheduled to begin next Thursday.

Judge Thomas F. Murphy granted the adjournment to allow time to prepare the Harlem Democrat's defense against new charges made recently by the Government.

The amended charges accuse Mr. Powell of improper deductions in the 1951 tax return he prepared for his wife, Hazel Scott, the jazz pianist.

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Late City

1-1-60

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Rayburn Expects Powell to Get Job

Washington, Jan. 25 (UPI)—Speaker Sam Rayburn just about made it official today that Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-N. Y.) will succeed to the chairmanship of the House Education and Labor Committee. He said he has told Powell, under indictment for tax evasion, that he assumes the House will follow its seniority practice and elevate the New Yorker to the post. Rep. Graham A. Barden (D-N.C.), the present chairman, has announced he will not seek reelection.

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DATED 1/23/60

P. 5

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Powell Snubs Boro Job; Eyes Chair in House

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell turned his nose up today at a suggestion he might be Manhattan's next Borough President.

"I would like to run for Borough President at the end of my political career on one platform—to abolish the office," Mr. Powell declared.

Mr. Powell said he felt there were too many useless jobs attached to the office.

"There are thousands of jobs in the five Borough Presidents' offices—jobs like Manhole Inspectors—for which the men in them don't even report to City Hall for their paychecks. They have them mailed to them."

Mr. Powell said he considered his Congressional post far more important.

And he revealed he has his heart set on becoming chairman of the important House Education and Labor Committee, and expects no difficulty in landing the post. The present chairman, Rep. Graham A. Barden (D.-N.C.) will retire from Congress after this year.

NEXT IN LINE

Mr. Powell is next in line in order of seniority, which has invariably prevailed in naming committee chairmen. It would give the Harlem Democrat a post where he could influence legislation dealing with civil rights and school integration through Federal aid to school construction.

Rep. Powell, a Negro, who has been in Congress 16 years, revealed his ambitions in the parish house of the Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 W. 138th st., where he is pastor.

"The first thing I did was to thank God on my knees," he said after learning of Rep. Barden's retirement.

Rep. William H. Ayres (R.-Ohio), a member of the committee, said any Democratic move to shunt Mr. Powell aside would be made a race issue.

Mr. Powell had been suggested as a possible successor to Hulan Jack the present Borough President now awaiting trial for accepting a loan from a man seeking a Title I slum clearance award from the city.

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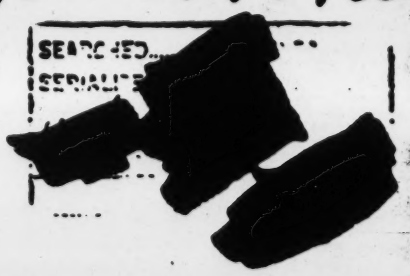

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FBI/DOJ

Seniority and Mr. Powell

If there has ever been a group in Congress hoist by its own petard, it is the Southern Democratic bloc now facing the prospect of Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. becoming, through seniority, chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee.

Chief beneficiaries and fiercest defenders of the seniority rule—under which the chairman of a Congressional committee is automatically the majority member who has continuously served longest on that committee — have historically been the Southern Democrats. Once elected, they have a tendency to stay elected. The result is that fifteen of the twenty-one standing committees of the House have chairmen from the South (including Missouri), and twelve of the seventeen standing committees of the Senate.

For years the wisdom of the seniority rule has been questioned; and from time to time a particularly egregious example of a committee chairman who is also a complete misfit gives urgency to the demand for a change. But the change never comes; even the La Follette-Monroney committee, whose excellent report formed the basis of the Reorganization Act of 1946, was unable to agree on how to effect a "workable" reform in the stifling seniority system.

Now the impending retirement of Representative Barden of North Carolina from the House and from chairmanship of the Education Committee opens the way for almost certain accession to this powerful post of the Congressman who, to Southern Democrats, is Public Enemy No. 1. But, to compound the irony in an ironic situation, it is not only the Southern Democratic bloc that would like to prevent the chairmanship from going to Mr. Powell. Many liberals who share Mr. Powell's views on integration nevertheless believe that the combination of his notably racist attitudes, his miserable record as a legislator and his extreme absenteeism all tend to disqualify him.

Mr. Powell is not the kind of legislator who ought to be chairman of a committee of the Congress; but he will be unless the present dangerously anachronistic seniority system is modified enough to permit some choice in the selection of committee chairmen.

N. Y. N Y TIMES

DATE 20 JAN 1960

ACTION

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100-22864-628

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-22864) DATE: 2/4/60

FROM : SA [redacted] b7C

SUBJECT: ADAM CLAYTON POWELL
SM-C

Attached is a self-explanatory WFO letter and characterization of [redacted] b7D

[redacted]

The above material is located in NY 100-129390-3.

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FBI/DOJ

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TO: CHIEF CLERK

Date 1/20

Subject ADAM CLAYTON POWELL

Aliases

Address	Birth Date	Birthplace
NYC	7	7

- [ ] Exact Spelling
- [ ] All References
- [x] Main Subversive Case Files Only
- [ ] Subversive References Only
- [ ] Main Criminal Case Files Only
- [ ] Criminal References Only
- [ ] Main Subversive (If no Main, list all Subversive References)
- [ ] Main Criminal (If no Main, list all Criminal References)
- [ ] Restrict to Locality of

File & Serial Number	Remarks	File & Serial Number	Remarks
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+ refs + cfs on Adam C.			
	Adam		

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	414	449	100-129390

Searched by [redacted] (date)

Consolidated by (date)

Reviewed by (date)

File Review Symbols

I - Identical
NI - Not identical
? - Not identifiable
U - Unavailable reference

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FBI/DOJ

Blast at Powell Vexes AFL-CIO

United Press International.

MIAMI BEACH, Feb. 9.—AFL-CIO officials voiced concern today that a surprise attack on Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D., N. Y.) may backfire and hamper organized labor's political and legislative activities.

George Meany, AFL-CIO president, said yesterday it would be "terrible" if the Negro Congressman were elevated to chairman of the Labor Committee. He accused Rep. Powell of using his public position to foment racial strife.

Some officials here at the winter meeting of the AFL-CIO executive council agreed with Mr. Meany's charge that Mr. Powell has a poor attendance record, but they said privately they wished he had been more diplomatic.

Federation officials said they believed the criticism might make it tougher to get backing of Negro workers for labor-endorsed candidates in the fall elections. They cited the immediate challenge to Mr. Meany by A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and the only Negro vice president of the AFL-CIO.

Mr. Randolph defended Rep. Powell's voting record on labor and civil rights and declared the Harlem Democrat would be a "distinct improvement" over retiring Chairman Graham Barden (D., N.

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FBI/DOJ

JACKIE ROBINSON

Last Saturday, I had the pleasure of meeting socially with a number of friends, and after a period of fun and pleasantries, a very serious subject arose for discussion: the question of Negro leadership. There were pros and cons expressed as to the quantity, quality and effectiveness of Negro leaders, as well as criticisms and defenses of Negroes in general as followers and supporters of our own leaders.

When we discussed specific examples, one name quickly came to dominate the conversation: Harlem Congressman Adam Clayton Powell. For, controversial as he may be to other Americans, we agreed that Powell—with all his virtues and faults—is unquestionably the most popular, and potentially the most powerful, of all Negro leaders today. Though technically he represents only the one Congressional district in upper Manhattan, there is little doubt of the fact that what Adam says and does—and doesn't say or do—has an impact upon the mass of Negroes the country over.

It is for this very reason, some of us felt, that Powell needs to be informed that many of us have become greatly concerned over him and the position of leadership he holds. He has in many ways the unprecedented opportunity of scoring new gains for his constituents and for Negroes at large. Because of his great personal popularity, there has been some hesitancy to criticize Powell for very real and serious failings as a legislator and leader. But the time has come, we felt, to point out to him his part to produce more concrete results than he has to date. That this kind of confidence deserves greater responsibility on

In many ways, Powell has become a symbol among Negroes of a fighting, uncompromising, give-'em-hell kind of leadership, whose great emotional appeal has enabled him to return time after time to his seat in Congress. When his support of President Eisenhower in the last Presidential election was used in a Democratic Party attempt to purge Powell—despite the lack of any such action against Southern Democrats, who for different reasons, did the same thing—many of us rallied to his defense and successfully overcame the attempt. But popular as he may be, some of us felt that unless Powell begins to show more of an aggressive follow-up to his exciting speeches and revealing pronouncements, he may soon begin to lose some of the confidence he has enjoyed in the past.

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The recent announcement that Powell will in all likelihood succeed to the chairmanship of the greatly powerful House Committee on Labor and Education merely serves to underscore the seriousness of the situation. Labor and education are perhaps the two fields, aside from basic civil rights themselves, that Negroes are most vitally interested in. As Chairman, Powell will have greater opportunity than any Negro legislator has ever had to affect the course of Negro progress in these fields. It is essential, therefore, that Powell live up more fully to the obligations which leadership has placed upon his shoulders in order that racial barriers in these fields may more speedily be overturned.

Of course, Adam Clayton Powell has been a target of many quarters for years. The 1958 purge attempt was not the only time that powerful interests have tried to unseat and discredit the Congressman. There even seems reason to believe that his present income-tax indictment has some political motivation. But the people of Harlem—and Negroes in general—have continued to support Adam because they see in him a potential for great effectiveness as an articulate, aggressive spokesman and leader.

I hope he will now accept these constructively motivated criticisms, which come from among his friends and continued supporters. We have long waited for him to fulfill his obligations in greater degree. We know he has had health problems which have hindered him somewhat in the past. But we are greatly hopeful that now, with even larger opportunities open to him—and through him, to us—that he will accept the responsibility and more effectively function as the kind of legislator and leader we know he could be.

MEANY IS CRITICIZED FOR POWELL STAND

The United Mine Workers of America has accused George Meany of "sheer stupidity" in opposing Representative Adam Clayton Powell's succession to the chairmanship of the House Committee on Education and Labor.

Mr. Meany, president of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, was asked Feb. 8 for his reaction to the likelihood that the Manhattan Democrat would head the committee. His answer was "terrible."

Although John L. Lewis has retired as president of the independent U. M. W., the current edition of its Journal fires back at Mr. Meany in typical, hard-hitting Lewis fashion for his pronouncement on Mr. Powell.

It says in an editorial:

"Just in case there are any questions in anyone's mind, the United Mine Workers of America believe that Representative Adam Clayton Powell is well qualified in every way to become chairman of the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives.

"Representative Powell has a fine voting record on matters of interest to working people. He is in line for the Labor Committee chairmanship because he is senior Democrat on the committee when Representative Graham Barden, Democrat of North Carolina, steps down. Powell, so far, has been denied his rightful position as a chairman of one of the Labor Committee's subcommittees simply because he is a Negro."

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Powell Using Franked Mail To Call Out Harlem Pickets

Post Cards Ask Data on Groups Planning Protest

By FRANK LYNN,
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell is using his franking privilege to drum up support for a "leadership conference," which is expected to lead to the mass picketing of a Woolworth store in Harlem, the World-Telegram learned today.

Ruling Sought.

The taxpayers are picking up the tab for the postage on return postcards which the Harlem Democrat has enclosed in letters urging various organizatiions to attend a meeting at his Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 W. 138th St., and to participate in the mass picket line Saturday afternoon.

New York postal officials termed "questionable" the use of the franking privilege by Rep. Powell, whose trial on tax fraud charges is scheduled to begin Monday. The postal officials indicated they would seek a ruling from postal authorities in Washington.

'Action Meeting.'

Postal regulatios permit the use of the frank—a Congressmans signature instead of a stamp—for one mailing of public documents printed by order of Congress, the Congressional Record or excerpts from it, seed and agricultural reports of the Department of Agricul-

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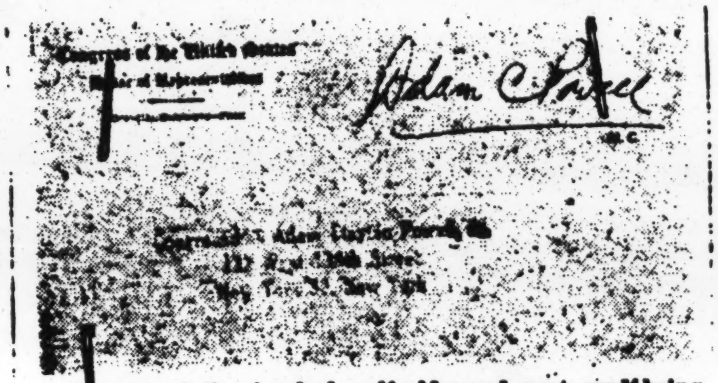
ture and "official correspondence."

The franked postcard—self-addressed to Rep. Powell at his church—seeks information about the organization which will participate.

Rep. Powell termed the meeting an "action meeting of the No-Partisan City-Wide Leadership Conference." The conference, according to the Congressman, comprises "over 100 organizations with a Negro and Puerto Rican membership of over one million.' Rep. Powell is chairman.

Those at the meeting will "leave in a group" to join the picket line at the Woolworth store on W. 125th St.. Woolworth stores in the South have been the target of Negro sit-down strikers who refuse to leave lunch counters unless they are served.

Three of these "strikers" will attend Saturday's meeting where amass picketing of Harlem liquor stores April 1 will also be discussed, according to Rep. Powell. This picketing will protest alleged discrimination against Negro liquor salesmen.


Adam Clayton Powell
M.C.

A copy of the franked, self-addressed post card being used by Rep. Adam Clayton Powell in organizing a "leadership conference" at his church Saturday.

Powell Brews More Trouble

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., who often uses his influence and prestige to sow racial discord instead of amity, is at it again—and making questionable use of his Congressional mail-franking privilege to boot.

Exploiting the Souehenn lunch-counter strife, Mr. Powel has called an "action meeting" Saturday of the "Non-Partisan City-Wide Leadership Conference," of which he is chairman. This outfit claims to represent "over 100 organizations with a Negro and Puerto Rican membership of over one million."

Three of the "Southern sit-down youth leaders" are billed as guest stars at the meeting, which will erupt into mass picketing of the Woolworth store on 125th St.

Does recruiting organizations for this purpose consitute "official correspondence" by a Congressman? We wouldn't think so. Yet Mr. Powell franked not only th einvitations but also return postcards. Mr. Powell's rebuttal—that others use the frank to promote segregation, so why shouldn't he use it to promote desegregation?—fails to impress us. We believe investigation by postal authorities is well warranted.

Aside from the franking matter, there's the larger question: *Is* Mr. Powell promoting desegregation with this forthcoming demonstration on 125th St. or is he creating an explosive issue where none exists?

We incline to the latter view. The lunch-counter incidents in the South are essentially local symptoms of a different social and political climate.

What's gained by transplanting in New York an agitation that has no point or relevance here? What did Woolworth's on 125th St. do to anybody? Will this kind of stunt really help advance integration in the South?

It seems to us that what Mr. Powell is dealing in is the manufacture of synthetic trouble, with no constructive purpose. We think this kind of thing obstructs, not advances, integration and does no one any good—least of all the people supposedly being championed.

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Powell Counters Franking Critics

Says He'll Pay Mail Costs If Southerners Do

Demanding equal rights on both sides of the integration battle, Rep. Adam Clayton Powell has announced he will pay for franked postcards used to further his fight if authorities can show him that foes of integration paid for mail used to support their stand.

Contacted in Washington, Rep. Powell ackn owledged he had used his Congressional franking privilege to organize an anti-segregation meeting. This was disclosed yesterday by the World-Telegram.

Hits Southern Congressmen.

Southern Congressmen have been using the frank to "promote White Citizens Councils in defiance of the Supreme Court and to support segregation," Rep. Powell charged. If the Post Office Department allows this, he added, "there is every reason to allow me to use my frank to lead people legally and non-violently to achieve justice."

Mr. Powell said he was referring specifically to Sen. James O. Eastland (D., Miss.). In addition, he accused Sen. Eastland of using the taxpayers' dollars to record anti-integration radio broadcasts for distribution to White Citizens Councils. Sen. Eastland was not available for comment.

500 Cards Franked.

Postal regulations permit Congressmen to use their signature in lieu of a stamp on certain official correspondence. In the current controversy, Mr. Powell used this privilege on return postcards in letters he sent to about 500 people urging them to attend a meeting Saturday at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem where he is pastor.

The Congressman said he had used the franking privilege "for 16 years for all mail in connection with any meeting where I was the speaker."

"Eastland and the others have done the same thing," he declared.

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Rep. Powell Trial Starts Tomorrow

False Income Tax Returns Charged

By Milton Lewis

Trial of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell jr. on an almost two-year-old income tax evasion indictment is slated to get under way tomorrow.

Barring last-minute legal defense stratagems, Judge Frederick vanPelt Bryan will start examining prospective jurors at 10:30 a.m. in United States District Court. The trial is expected to last from four to six weeks and if the fifty-one-year-old Harlem Democrat is convicted as charged he faces up to five years in prison and a $10,000 fine on each of three counts.

Politics Charged

Shortly after the indictment was opened in May, 1958, Mr. Powell charged that it sprang from "political sources" and alleged:

"This is the first time that any one has been indicted by a grand jury that has been tampered with and the tampering admitted in the press."

The United States Attorney at the time, Paul W. Williams, vigorously denied that there had been any tampering, though the grand jury reconvened after a fourteen-month lapse and after it forced the Justice Department to reopen the grand jury's investigation. Mr. Powell came out for the re-election of President Eisenhower in 1956 and that caused the Harlem Democrat to be dumped by Tammany leaders in 1958. But Mr. Powell ran away with the election anyway and was sent to Congress for an eighth term.

War With Police

The tall, handsome politician is pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem and is regarded by many Negroes there as a valiant civil rights leader. Recently, in his war with the Police Department, he called for equal rights for Negroes in regard to the policy racket. He charged that police were letting only white "bankers" operate in the Harlem area.

The Federal indictment alleges that Mr. Powell falsely underestimated the net income of his wife, the pianist Hazel Scott, by $5,300 in 1951 and thereby beat the government out of $1,990. The true bill also charges that the politician falsely underestimated their joint return for 1952 by $3,200 and thereby evaded paying $1,663 in taxes. Miss Scott, living in Paris in recent years, is not a defendant in the case.

Mr. Powell will be represented by Edward Bennett Williams, of Washington, whose clients have included the late Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy and James R. Hoffa, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Another defense lawyer will be Harrison S. Jackson, long associated with Mr. Powell.

Aids Convicted

The prosecution will be headed by Morton S. Robson, Chief Assistant United States Attorney, who has been clamoring for some time to get the trial under way. During one adjournment proceeding, Mr. Robson indicated he will be calling seven witnesses from European cities in which Miss Scott appeared during a four-month concert tour between September, 1951, and January, 1952. The tour included Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Israel, France and Italy.

At least two of Mr. Powell's Congressional aids have already been convicted of income tax evasion, while another has pleaded guilty to embezzlement.

Just as Mr. Powell's arraignment on the tax indictment on May 16, 1958, was turned into a political rally by him, it is expected that the Powell faithful will turn out in strength for his trial. It is to be held in Room 110 of the United States Court House at Foley Square.

Whatever the outcome of the trial, Mr. Powell is expected to run for Congress again this fall and win.

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POWELL TAX TRIAL BEGINS TOMORROW

Representative Accused in 3 Counts of Falsifying U. S. Returns in 1951-52

By EDWARD RANZAL

The oft-postponed trial of Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. on charges of income-tax evasion will start tomorrow before Federal Judge Frederick vanPelt Bryan.

A three-count indictment was returned against the Harlem Democrat in May, 1958.

The first count charges that Mr. Powell fraudulently prepared the 1951 tax return for his wife, Hazel Scott, jazz pianist. He reported that her net income was $3,815. The grand jury said her net was $9,181.

The second count states Miss Scott paid only $590 in taxes, whereas she should have paid $1,990.

The third count charges that in a joint return for 1952 the couple evaded payment of $1,863 in taxes.

Miss Scott, who has been living in Europe for the last several years, was not named a defendant and is not expected to testify at the trial.

Mr. Powell will be represented by Edward Bennett Williams, Washington lawyer. The prosecution will be headed by Morton S. Robson, Chief Assistant United States Attorney.

Mr. Robson is expected to present the following picture to the jury:

In 1951 Miss Scott gave a series of concerts in seven countries in Europe. Her gross income for that year is believed to have been about $50,000. Large deductions were taken for travel fares, publicity and entertainment, gowns, hair dresser, cosmetics, personal maid while on tour, music, books, special arrangements, television counseling, one-half the salary paid a chauffeur, and an automobile. This reduced the gross to a net of $3,815.

The Government will attempt to prove that many of the deductions were false.

Joint Return Questioned

In 1952 Miss Scott again toured Europe. Her gross earnings from her concerts are believed to have been about $70,000. In a joint tax return for the year, Mr. Powell added to her earnings his Congressional salary of $12,500 and his $6,000 salary as pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem.

Mr. Powell reported that their net income was $5,252 and that no income tax was due because they credited themselves with $1,400 in taxes paid in Europe. They contended that the tax due on the net of $5,252 was less than the $1,400 and that therefore they owed no income taxes here.

The jury will be selected from a panel of 250 persons drawn two months ago from a wheel by the court clerk. It constitutes the regular panel for March and was not drawn specifically for the Powell trial.

The trial is expected to last four to six weeks. Although no figures were available, the cost of the trial to the Government will be considerable because seven prosecution witnesses will be brought here from Europe at the expense of the prosecution.

Another witness will be Zeke Johnson, Sergeant-at-Arms in the House of Representatives. He is expected to provide Mr. Powell's expense records for the years in question.

The trial has been adjourned a number of times.

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Powell Tax Trial Set for Tomorrow

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr.'s long-delayed trial for income tax evasion will start tomorrow before Federal Judge Bryan.

The Harlem Democrat was indicted in May, 1958, on three counts involving the 1951 income of his now-estranged wife, pianist Hazel Scott, and a joint return for 1952.

The prosecution, headed by Chief Asst. U. S. Atty. Morton S. Robson, will import seven witnesses from Europe, where Miss Scott toured in 1951 and 1952 and where she now is living.

She is not a defendant.

Powell will be represented by Washington lawyer Edward Bennett Williams, attorney for Teamsters boss James R. Hoffa.

Robson will attempt to prove that many of the deductions taken from Miss Scott's earnings were fraudulent.

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Powell Tax Evasion Trial Starting —Hazel Scott May Take the Stand

By TED POSTON

In a case which may be politically explosive—regardless of the guilt or innocence of the defendant—Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. goes on trial today before Federal Judge Bryan on charges of income tax evasion.

In a gesture of support scores of Negro ministers and hundreds of parishioners of his Abyssinian Baptist Church were to accompany him to Foley Square. The 51-year-old Harlem Democrat is accused of trying to evade payment of $1,389.69 taxes owed by his pianist-wife Hazel Scott, for 1951, and of attempted evasion of $1,663.48 in taxes owed by both in a joint return for 1952.

Today's opening of the long-delayed trial was set yesterday by Judge Bryan after he met in chambers for several hours with Edward Bennett Williams of Washington, D. C., and Harrison S. Jackson, 200 W. 135th St., Powell's attorneys.

Powell was not present at the meeting which Bryan said was held to eliminate extraneous matters in an attempt to speed the actual trial, expected to last at least a month.

The flamboyant Congressman was indicted on May 8, 1958, after four of his Congressional and church aides had been indicted earlier. Two were convicted of tax evasion, a third pleaded guilty to taking funds from the church's savings organization, and a fourth is still awaiting trial.

Miss Scott, who is estranged from the minister, is not a defendant in the case, but is expected to appear as a witness. She returned here recently from Paris where she has been living since the estrangement.

Jackson, close friend of both the defendant and his wife, said that he didn't know if she would testify for the prosecution or the defense.

The prosecution, headed by Asst. U. S. Atty. Morton Robson, has indicated that it will call at least nine witnesses from Europe, however, to prove that Powell conspired to falsify returns on Miss Scott's earnings during a European concert tour in 1951 and 1952.

Coming in a Presidential election year, the trial will focus attention on Powell, one of the most publicized advocates of civil rights at a time when that issue is under national scrutiny.

Powell, who under advice from Williams, has declined to discuss his case pending the trial, said:

"It comes at a time when the civil rights fight is before Congress and I'd like to get it over so that I can get back there (to Washington) and do my part."

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Powell Snags Trial, Hits Jury Selection

The often postponed income tax trial of Harlem's Rep. Adam Clayton Powell ran into a new delay today when Rep. Powell's lawyer objected to the way federal juries are chosen here.

The lawyer, Edward Bennett Williams, charged there was "geographic and economic discrimination" and "there may also be racial discrimination" in the drawing up of lists of prospective grand and petty jurors. He specifically objected to the impaneling of the grand jury which indicted Rep. Powell.

U.S. District Judge Frederick VanPelt Bryan, before whom the tax trial was to be held, ordered it put off until he completes a hearing on Mr. Williams' objection. William J. Borman, deputy clerk in charge of jury lists, was summoned for questioning.

Mr. Williams said the jury clerk had selected names for grand and petty jury lists from the counties of Westchester, the Bronx and Manhattan, excluding persons who live in eight upstate counties which are also part of the Southern Federal District of New York. He called this "geographic discrimination."

He also charged that few persons were chosen from poor neighborhoods and saw possible racial discrimination because he could find few persons on the lists from Rep. Powell's Congressional district.

Rep. Powell is charged with making fraudulent income tax returns for 1951 and 1952.

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POWELL TRIAL TO OPEN

Judge Seeks to Speed Case—Selection of Jury Today

Federal Judge Frederick vanPelt Bryan yesterday sought to expedite the trial of Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Democratic Representative from Harlem, on charges of income tax evasion.

The selection of jurors begins at 10:30 this morning in the Federal Court house in Foley Square.

Judge Bryan conferred yesterday with attorneys in the case in an attempt to clear away extraneous matters to permit the taking of testimony without unnecessary interruptions. The Government is bringing nine witnesses from abroad.

Mr. Powell is also pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem. He is reported to have appealed to his parishioners yesterday to attend the trial to show their support for him.

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Powell Trial Opening In Income Tax Evasion

Selection of a jury was to begin today for the long-delayed income tax trial of Harlem Congressman Adam Clayton Powell.

The trial will be held in the Federal Court House in Foley Square before Federal Judge Frederick van Pelt Bryan. Judge Bryan conferred yesterday with lawyers in the case and suggested testimony should be taken without unnecessary interruptions.

One of four Negro Congressmen Rep. Powell is a Democrat and pastor of Harlem's Abyssinian Baptist Church.

He is charged with making fraudulent income tax returns for 1951 and 1952. The government is expected to bring several witnesses from Europe in an attempt to prove the Congressman made false expense claims for foreign concert tours of his wife, pianist Hazel Scott.

The government began investigating Rep. Powell's tax returns in 1956 after two of his aides were convicted of income tax evasion. A third is still under indictment on tax charges. Another aide pleaded guilty to embezzling funds from a credit union at the church.

ADAM CLAYTON POWELL.

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TAX TRIAL DELAYED

Powell Charges Discrimination in Panel's Selection

By DON SHEARD

The income tax evasion trial of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr. was delayed today when his attorney challenged the validity of the impaneling of the prospective jurors, and of the grand jurors who indicted the Harlem Congressman.

REP. ADAM POWELL
Arrives at Court Today
Journal-American Photo by Vincent Lopez

Edward Bennett Williams, defense counsel, charged there was "geographic and economic discrimination" in the impaneling which would violate his client's constitutional rights.

He told Federal Judge Frederick van Pelt Bryan that the jury clerk had selected members of the two juries from Westchester County, the Bronx and Manhattan—excluding persons from eight of the counties comprising the Southern District, where the trial is being held.

He also stated that the jury clerk supplemented voting lists from which names were culled with "New York Times real estate listings."

"GOOD DISTRICTS"

This, contended Mr. Williams, denied Rep. Powell "a cross-section of jurors," because the lists were principally from "good districts and high rent areas."

The attorney also argued that there "might also be racial discrimination" because there appeared to be few jurors from the 12th Assembly District, which is the defendant's home district.

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As a result of these charges, William J. Borman, deputy clerk in charge of jury lists, was called to be questioned by Mr. Williams.

Judge Bryan earlier denied a defense motion to dismiss the charges on the grounds that "extrinsic influences had been brought to bear on the indicting grand jury."

The court ruled on this after Mr. Williams said he had no additional facts to support the issue.

Rep. Powell, also pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church, in Harlem, faces possible maximum sentences of 15 years imprisonment and fines totaling $30,000 if convicted on the three counts of the indictment.

The defendant, indicted May 8, 1958, is accused of advising for preparation of false income tax returns; attempted evasion of payment of $1,299.69 in 1951 taxes owed by his wife, jazz pianist Hazel Scott; and attempted evasion of $1,663.48 in a joint tax return of 1952.

The Government is expected to bring a number of witnesses from Europe in its attempt to prove that Rep. Powell made false expense claims for Miss Scott's foreign concert tours.

Zeke Johnson, sergeant-at-arms of the House of Representatives, also is expected to be called to testify to Mr. Powell's own expense records.

Powell Trial On Income Tax Begins Today

The Government's long and turbulent income tax case against Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr. (D.-N. Y.) went to trial here today.

Federal Judge Frederick van Pelt Bryan set ground rules for the case in a meeting yesterday with Rep. Powell's attorney, Edward Bennett Williams of Washington, and chief asst. U. S. atty. Morton S. Robson. A jury panel of 350 was called up.

INDICTED IN 1958

He is charged, in a three-count indictment returned in May, 1958, with making fraudulent deductions in a 1951 tax return prepared for his wife, pianist Hazel Scott, and in a 1952 joint return.

The Government is expected to bring a number of witnesses from Europe in its attempt to prove that Mr. Powell made false expense claims for Miss Scott's foreign concert tours.

Zeke Johnson, sergeant-at-arms of the House of Representatives, also is expected to be called to testify to Mr. Powell's own expense records.

The Government began investigation of Mr. Powell's tax returns in 1956 after two of his aides had been convicted of income tax evasion. A third is still under indictment on tax charges, and another aide has pleaded guilty to embezzlement.

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Hassles Mark Long-Delayed Powell Trial

The Federal Government's on-again, off-again income tax evasion case against Rep. Adam Clayton Powell is in the courtroom finally amid new hassles.

First of all, Edward Bennett Williams, defense attorney for the Harlem Congressman, challenged the composition of a grand jury that indicted Powell in 1958. He claims geographic, economic and possible racial discrimination in the grand jury's makeup.

FIX QUIZ ASKED

Then, Sen. John J. Williams (R.-Del.), wants a Senate investigation of published charges that Mr. Powel got $50,000 to $100,000 for switching his political support. The study, he says, should extend also to charges that efforts were made to fix the income tax case against Rep. Powell.

The charges of payoffs to Mr. Powell for his support were made in columns by Drew Pearson.

So—with one thing and another—the selection of a trial jury has been delayed in the income tax case in Federal Court—but the job continues today just the same.

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Powell's Tax Trial Opens Here; Dismissal of U.S. Charge Denied

The New York Times

Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr., left, Harlem Democrat, entering Federal Court yesterday afternoon with Edward Bennett Williams, his chief counsel.

By FOSTER HAILEY

The trial of Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. on charges of income tax evasion opened yesterday in Federal court here before Judge Frederick vanPelt Bryan.

Most of yesterday's morning session and half an hour in the afternoon was spent in exploring the method of compiling jury lists. The panel of 125 prospective jurors waited in another room while this was going on.

Mr. Powell a Democrat, represents the Harlem area here. He is being tried on a three-count indictment returned [illegible] May, 1958. It accuses him of preparing fraudulent tax returns for his wife, Hazel Scott, the jazz pianist, in 1951 and of committing a like fraud in preparing a joint return the next year.

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A conviction could lead to a minimum jail sentence of five years and a fine of $10,000 on each count.

The selection of a jury, which is expected to be completed this morning, brought a touch of humor in the court room when it developed that four of the first nineteen panelists questioned had had some tax troubles of their own.

One man was excused when he said he was "sore" about a tax assessment he had been obliged to pay. He told the judge that his own troubles would influence him in his decision concerning the Powell case. Another man, who said he had had tax troubles, was kept on when he explained that this would not influence his judgment. Two other panelists with past tax headaches were dismissed for other reasons.

William J. Borman, jury clerk in the office of the United States Commissioner of Jurors, was called to explain the methods used in compiling jury lists.

Under questioning by Edward Bennett Williams of Washington, Mr. Powell's chief counsel, Mr. Borman testified that in November, 1956, he started using methods other than voting registers in such compilations. One source of names was a list of apartment leases carried in The New York Times. Another was suburban telephone directories.

The use of such lists, Mr. Williams argued, "is a violation of the constitutional right of the defendants" to have a cross-section of the population act as his jurors. It tends to set up geographic and economic standards that do not have sanction under the law, he said.

Mr. Borman explained that he turned to sources other than the voting register because of a decreasing response, especially in Manhattan, to summonses to prospective jurors. He denied, however, that it was intended to discriminate against any racial or economic group.

Mr. Williams asked for time to check the list of the grand jurors who indicted Mr. Powell before seeking a ruling on his "challenge to the array" as his objection to the jury panel is called. Judge Bryan gave him until this morning to complete this check and make his motion.

Earlier Judge Bryan overruled a defense motion to dismiss the indictment on the ground that "extrinsic influences had been brought to bear on the indicting grand jury." A similar motion had been denied by Judge William B. Herlands in 1958 shortly after the indictment was returned.

The panel of 125 was brought into the courtroom at 2:50 P. M. and Judge Bryan began questioning them on their attitudes. He stressed race and religion as Mr. Powell is a Negro and pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church at 132 West 138th Street.

Seven of the first group of panelists were dismissed for various reasons. The defense used two of its peremptory challenges. One Negro was among the twelve in the box when court was adjourned until 10:30 this morning.

About 150 persons, most of them Negroes and including twelve Baptist ministers, stood in the hallway most of the morning. None was admitted to the courtroom, however. The 150 available seats were taken by jury panelists and newspapermen.

Morton S. Robson, chief assistant United States Attorney, and George I. Gordon are presenting the Government's case against Mr. Powell.

Tax Woes Disqualify Powell Jurors

4 of 19 on the Panel Had Own Troubles With U. S.

By Milton Lewis

Four of the nineteen prospective jurors examined yesterday as the Rep. Adam Clayton Powell jr. tax evasion trial finally began revealed that they, too, have had Internal Revenue Service troubles.

This brought chuckles in United States District Court from the Harlem Democrat, who until then had been sitting tensely, leaning forward like a tall, lean jockey.

The defendant, 100 of whose followers were disheartened because no spectators were allowed into court the first day, opened the proceedings by challenging the method of selecting grand and trial juries. He did this through counsel, Edward Bennett Williams, who charged "geographic and economic discrimination and possibly racial discrimination."

It was noted that on the 125-member panel for this trial there were at least six Negroes and one Oriental. And when court recessed at 4:30 p. m. until 10:30 a. m. today, a Negro was in the jury box. Judge Frederick vanPelt Bryan reserved decision on the challenge to the grand and trial jury array.

Court Crowded

The Powell adherents, including twelve ministers from the Baptist Ministers Conference, arrived as court opened, but they were kept in the corridors so that there would be room for the jury panel. The court has only 140 seats, and the press occupied the rest.

Mr. Powell, who normally holds press conferences at the sight of a reporter, made it plain that he will be doing no talking about this case while the trial is on for the next four to six weeks. He is under such a directive from Mr. Williams, his counsel, who isn't doing much talking outside court either.

Both defendent and Mr. Williams nodded vigorously when Judge Bryan admonished the jury panel that a verdict is to be returned only on evidence adduced in his court and the bench delved deeply into possible prejudice—as well as any tax troubles panel members might have had.

Juror Challenged

One woman, merchandising director for a radio station, was challenged peremptorily by the defense. This was after she related that she and her husband had been called down for questioning by Internal Revenue Service about their joint return. One of the charges in the three-count indictment against the fifty-one-year-old Congressman, now serving his eighth term, involves a joint return.

Specifically, he is accused of evading payment of $1,39[illegible] on the 1951 return of his wife, the pianist Hazel Scott, and $1,663 on their joint return for 1952. Miss Scott, in Paris the last several years, is not a defendant in the case and is not expected to be caled as a witness.

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Herald Tribune photo by Ira Rosenberg

TRIAL BEGINS—Rep. Adam Clayton Powell during recess yesterday in income tax evasion trial. In background is Federal courthouse, in Foley Square.

Another venireman who was assessed an extra $300 in taxes because the government found insufficient proof of hotel bills was also excused, but not for that reason. He claimed hardship. Similarly excused was a talesman who said "I feel pretty sore" about being taxed another $100.

Another Tells Story

But still in the box at close of day was a talesman who related his tax troubles, and he was getting constant attention from all sides. Mr. Powell seemed most sympathetic to this man's troubles.

Of the seven excused, none admitted to prejudice, though one venireman said he disliked some things about the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, of which Mr. Powell is a member.

As to the challenge to the array, both Mr. Williams and Morton S. Robson, chief assistant United States Attorney, questioned William J. Borman, the jury clerk, before the jury selection began. He denied there was any systemtic exclusion of jurors and Mr. Robson maintained there was "no legal basis for the challenge."

The jury clerk did admit that he was having trouble getting sufficient jurors and that lately he has been perusing real estate leases for fashionable Manhattan apartment houses in an effort to get a line on prospective jurors.

At one point, Judge Bryan asked the panel:

"Are you for or against the Internal Revenue laws?"

That brought smiles from those in the jury box as well as from Mr. Powell, with the bench adding hastily:

"That doesn't mean, ladies and gentlemen, you all have to welcome paying income tax!"

The Lyons Den

By Leonard Lyons

.... Hazel Scott, back from Paris, not only to be ready to testify at the trial of her husband, Adam Clayton Powell, but also to play a nightclub engagement in Chicago .

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Powell Trial Gets An All-White Jury

An all-white jury of nine women and three men was selected today in Federal Court for the income tax evasion trial of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell.

The lone Negro among the 39 veniremen examined for the panel was challenged peremptorily by the Government.

The jury which will hear the the evidence against the Negro Congressman includes five housewives. The foreman is Harry A. Erter, of 2838 Webb ave., Bronx, an insurance broker, with offices at 431 5th. ave.

Actual trial was to get under way later today, with opening statements by the Government and the defense after four alternate jurors are selected.

MAY LAST MONTH

The trial was expected to last a month.

Mr. Powell is charged in a three-count indictment with preparing fraudulent tax returns for his wife, pianist Hazel Scott, in 1951, and of attempting to evade taxes on a joint husband-wife return for 1952.

Conviction would carry a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and a $30,000 fine.

Judge Frederick Van Pelt Bryan has yet to rule on a challenge to the jury selecting system by Mr. Powell's attorney, Edward Bennett Williams.

He charged geographic, economic and possible racial discrimination in the grand jury makeup.

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Negro, 3 Women On Tentative Jury For Powell Trial

By NORMA ABRAMS

Nine men, one a Negro, and three women were seated tentatively in the jury box in Federal Court late yesterday as the often-postponed income tax evasion trial of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, Harlem pastor, reached the end of its first day.

The defense, however, had exercised only two of its 10 peremptory challenges and the government had used none of the six it is allowed.

The juror in the No. 1 seat, who becomes foreman unless challenged, was Mark Ziembinski, an engineering employe of the New York Telephone Co. The lone Negro was Adolphus Harriot, an employe of Paramount Pictures, who told Judge Frederick Van Pelt he had never heard of the Powell case until yesterday.

-Panel Is Challenged

The 125 talesmen were admitted for the beginning of the jury selection only at 2:45 P.M., after most of the day's session had been devoted to a defense challenge of the grand jury which indicted Powell.

Powell's counsel, Edward Bennett Williams, contended that the grand jury had been drawn in 1956 in a "geographically and economically unsound" manner. No members were picked from farther north than White Plains, he said, whereas the Southern Federal District of New York extends almost to Albany.

(NEWS foto by Ed Clarity)
Rep. Adam Clayton Powell arrives at Federal Court yesterday.

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Judge Bryan reserved decision on the challenge to the grand jury and ordered the selection of a trial jury to begin.

Accused on Wife's Income

Powell is charged with fraudulently preparing a 1951 tax return for his wife, pianist Hazel Scott, which was said to have underlisted her income. Thereby, it is alleged, an attempt was made to cheat the government of $1,899.69 in taxes. Another count charges that in a joint return for 1952, payment of $1,633 was evaded.

If convicted, Powell could receive up to five years and a $10,000 fine on each count.

Miss Scott, who has lived in Europe several years, was not named as a defendant.

More than 100 Powell adherents and about a score of Baptist ministers waited outside the courtroom in the hope of gaining entry after the preliminaries were over. Jury selection continues at 10:30 A. M. today.

Powell Presses Attack on Grand Jury in Tax Case

Although jury selection is under way in his income tax trial, Rep. Powell today continued to attack Federal Court jury procedures, which his counsel denounced as discriminatory.

Before 12 prospective jurors return to the box today for further questioning on their qualifications, defense counsel Edward Bennett Williams will again cross-examine jury clerk William J. Borman on how federal grand and petit jury panels are made up here.

Federal Court Judge Bryan has reserved decision on several motions by which Williams hopes to quash Powell's indictment so that the lawyer may challenge testimony given by Borman yesterday in defense of the selection system.

Williams' fire will be centered chiefly on Borman's use of the names of persons listed in the New York Times as signers of high-rent leases as prospective jurors.

Borman, who testified first that the real estate listings were first used last year for jury selection, later admitted that the practice was in effect in November, 1956, a month before a grand jury began to investigate Powell.

The clerk insisted, however, that the Powell grand jury had been selected a month before the real estate system was inaugurated.

Williams, who denounced the whole jury selections system here as discriminatory, "economically, geographically and possibly racially," also assailed the clerk's contention that the real estate listings were needed "because we felt the population of Manhattan was deteriorating in quality . . . (because) there was a tremendous move out to the Island."

Before 1956, Borman testified, all prospective jurors were selected from the voting lists in Manhattan, The Bronx and Westchester County, but not from eight other counties in the Federal Southern District.

Jury selection began late yesterday after Bryan gave Williams an overnight period to check and challenge Borman's testimony. He will then rule on a second motion to quash the indictment. He denied the first such motion.

Seven of the first 19 prospective jurors called to the box were dismissed, two of them by peremptory defense challenges. Only one of the seven admitted some possible prejudice against the defendant.

Malcolm Pernie Jr. told Bryan he had "some opinions" about the NAACP and opposes some of their policies. He said he "can't answer one way or the other" on whether this might affect his judgment of Powell's

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See Robert S. Allen and Paul Scott on Page 41.

guilt or innocence.

On the other hand, August Heckscher was excused when he said frankly that he had "had some experiences with the Internal Revenue which might color my judgment." Several others admitted some difficulties with the Revenue Service, but denied prejudice.

Powell is accused of trying to evade payment of slightly more than $3,000 taxes owed by his wife, pianist Hazel Scott, and jointly for 1951 and 1952.

Miss Scott, who has lived in Paris for the last two years, returned here Saturday and attended services of Powell's Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem.

Asked today at her hotel if she would be a witness at the trial, at which she is not a defendant, she smiled sweetly and asked:

"What trial? I go to Chicago Monday for a three-week engagement, then to Minneapolis and finally to Canada for some work over the Canadian Broadcasting System. That's the only trial I know of."

Members of the church, who admired her three-quarter-length black diamond mink Sunday, are convinced, however, that she will take the stand in Powell's defense, although the couple reported to have been estranged for several years.

Several hundred Powell supporters came to the Federal Courthouse corridors during the first day, and many are expected to return today despite the admonition that no one will be admitted to the courtroom until the jury is completed.

Five Negroes were among the first 125 talesmen called and one was among the 12 to be questioned today. But there were chuckles in the courtroom yesterday when Adolphus Harriott of 2 W. 120th St. told Bryan that he first heard of Powell's tax difficulties "when I read about his trial in the newspapers this morning."

In Washington, Sen Williams (D-Del.) sought a vote today in the Senate on his resolution for an investigation of published charges that Powell accepted huge sums of money in 1956 from the GOP to switch to President Eisenhower, and in 1958 from New York Democratics to come out for Averell Harriman for Governor.

The charges were in Drew Pearson columns. They were put into the Congressional Record yesterday. They also said efforts were made to "fix" the income tax [illegible] Powell.

Washington Report

Powell Trains Sights on Meany

By Robert S. Allen and Paul Scott

Washington.

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-N.Y.) is already making plans for next year, when he becomes chairman of the House Labor Committee.

The controversial Harlem legislator proposes to create a special labor rackets investigating subcommittee. One of Powell's first targets is to be AFL-CIO President George Meany, who recently accused Powell of "talking out of both sides of his mouth on civil rights."

In private discussions with committee members, Powell has been seeking support for a special rackets subcommittee with himself as chairman. He has told them he'd need several hundred thousand dollars to hire a staff of 25 or more investigators. Nearly all the committee members have balked at giving Powell any promises.

It is their present intention to recognize Powell's seniority on the House Labor and Education Committee and to permit him to take over its chairmanship in the Congress that convenes next January.

But while recognizing Powell's seniority, [redacted] Speaker Rayburn and [redacted] Leader McCormack [redacted] giving him any [redacted] authority. [redacted] the two Democratic [redacted] thinking of [redacted] by splitting [redacted] in half. Under [redacted] committee [redacted] into a House L[redacted] and a House E[redacted] committee.

Powell [redacted] have the choice of either chairmanship. Much to the surprise of the Democratic leaders, he has already indicated he would take the Labor Committee. They had assumed he would become Education chairman to be in a strategic position to push anti-segregation legislation.

All these plans, however, are subject to two big ifs: the Democrats retaining their majority in the House and Powell being acquitted of income tax charges in New York.

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~~Powell's Problems:~~

~~Trial and Error~~

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~~CAPITAL REPORT~~: BY FULTON LEWIS, JR.

WASHINGTON, March 8—Harlem's Congressman Adam Clayton Powell faces a Federal prison term if a judge and jury, now sitting, convict him of income tax evasion. But he seems unperturbed.

He is continuing with the frontal attacks upon New York Police Commissioner Stephen Kennedy which he began on Jan. 3 from the pulpit of his Abyssinian Baptist Church. On that day the Congressman-minister charged that New York policemen, under the direction of Kennedy, were "discriminating" against Negro policy operations in Harlem by arresting more Negro gamblers than those of Italian or Jewish extraction.

Answering Powell, Commissioner Kennedy replied that he had never protected criminals, on or off his force. He told the Congressman that if he had any "credible evidence of crime or corruption he should present it to a grand jury, under oath."

RATHER THAN THAT, Powell took refuge on the floor of the House to demand that Kennedy transfer certain high-ranking police officers out of Harlem, West and East Manhattan. He accompanied the demand with a telegram to Kennedy himself. Kennedy spelled out New York police policy in his reply:

"Under my administration, district political leaders (Powell is one) do not, under any circumstances, make transfers, promotions

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er appointments either directly or indirectly to the Police Department of the City of New York."

The angry Powell called in the press to demand Kennedy's resignation. The Police Department, Powell charged, had become a "lily-white place." He demanded that Kennedy name a Negro to the job of Deputy Commissioner, a job previously held by a Negro.

Kennedy replied that "appointments, promotions and assignments are not and will not be made on the basis of politics, color, race or religion in the Police Department. Appointments, promotions, and assignments on the basis of quota for each ethnic group would not only be wrong but illegal."

Powell shot back that "there are better educated people in this town and much more intelligent people in this town" for Kennedy's job. The New York Police Commissioner is both a college and law school graduate.

POWELL'S CURRENT trial will not hamper his drive for Kennedy's scalp, Powell promises. Twice in the past fortnight, while his counsel, Edward Bennett Williams, worked on the Powell defense, the Congressman delivered House speeches about Kennedy's police force. He fingered a top-ranking New York cop as the "police bag man" protecting big-time Harlem gamblers.

Rep. Powell confessed that his "documentation" consisted of two anonymous reports he had received, the veracity of which he had not checked.

Note: Although his trial confines him to New York, Powell will be able to keep up on Congressional activities through his House District Office in Harlem. That office is staffed, incidentally, by the wives of two ex-convicts who themselves worked for Powell before income tax evasion convictions sent them up the river.

Although receiving annual salaries of more than $7,000 apiece, the two staffers admit they rarely go to the office, and work instead for Powell on other matters at his church.

Powell Is On Trial in Tax Case

With the tentative seating of a Federal jury, including three women and nine men, one a Negro, the trial of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell on income tax evasion got under way yesterday.

Federal Judge William Van Pelt Bryan ordered a jury chosen from a panel of 125 talesmen, including half a dozen Negroes, as the defense challenged the methods used to pick Federal jurors in this area. The selected jurors are still subject to defense or prosecution challenges.

IN ONE MOVE, Judge Bryan refused to dismiss the indictment against the Congressman. In another, he reserved decision on defense attorney Edward Bennett Williams' charge that the methods used to select both the talesmen and the grand jurors who indicted Powell were illegal.

WILLIAMS CHARGED there was "geographic and economic discrimination" in impaneling the grand and petty juries.

Williams argued the jury clerk selected members of the grand jury and petty juries from Westchester, Manhattan and Bronx and excluded jurors from the eight other counties in the Southern District of New York. He contended the clerk supplemented voting lists with real estate listings from a newspaper.

He said there "also may be racial discrimination" because there appeared to be few jurors from the 12th Assembly District in Manhattan on the list. The 12th A.D. is Powell's home district.

William J. Bormann, deputy clerk in charge of jury lists, was summoned so Williams could question him before Judge Bryan.

Powell is charged with attempting to evade payment of $1,[illegible] in taxes for 1951 owed by his wife, plaintiff Hazel Scott, and with the attempted evasion of $[illegible] taxes owed by the [illegible]

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Congressman's Income Tax Trial

Assert Powell Proposed to List $2.37 Clerical Collars as $737

By Milton Lewis

After selection of an all-white jury yesterday, the government painted a bold picture of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell jr. as an avaricious tax cheat.

For example, the panel of nine women and three men was told in United States District Court that the Harlem Democrat originally planned to deduct $737 for clerical garb, but when his own accountant raised his eyebrows, Mr. Powell reduced it on his return to $237.

"Actually, he spent not a penny more than $2.37 for clerical clothing—for collars," Chief Assistant United States Attorney Morton S. Robson charged in his opening statement as he glanced scornfully at the politician, who evidently spent a most uncomfortable forty-five minutes listening.

The Congressman, pastor of the Abbyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem, is being tried on a three-count indictment alleging tax evasion totaling $3,000 for the years 1951 and 1952, though according to Mr. Robson he cheated the government out of considerably larger sums for those two years.

All through the prosecutor's comments Mr. Powell watched him closely, and on three occasions Mr. Powell's counsel, Edward Bennett Williams, rose to protest. Mr. Williams contended that the prosecutor was going beyond the true bill and was being unfair. But Judge Frederick vanPelt Bryan indicated he heard no improprieties from Mr. Robson, who spoke in even-measured tone.

First Witness Up Today

Mr. Williams waived any opening statement. He explained he would decide whether to make one at the conclusion of the government's case—some weeks away. And at 10:30 a. m. today, the lead-off witness will take the stand, the first in a long parade of government witnesses, which will include a former tax collector who quit under fire and who helped prepare Mr. Powell's tax forms.

Mr. Robson gave several examples of what he called "flagrantly fraudulent" cheating on the part of Mr. Powell, now serving his eighth term in Congress. For 1951, Mr. Robson said, Mr. Powell listed $2,536 for transportation to and from Washington by train, when the round trip fare was about $25. And Mr. Powell was in this country for only eight months that year, it was reported.

"This man," Mr. Robson observed acidly, "would have had to make over 100 round trips in eight months or a round trip every other day to spend this much money. As incredible as this would be, it represents only a part of the picture.

"You will learn that this

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defendant did not pay full fare for his railroad tickets. He managed to get them at half price by the simple expedient of sending his assistant minister for them.

"His assistant minister was in possession of a clergyman's certificate authorizing him to purchase railroad tickets at half price. At half fare, the defendant would have had to make a round trip to Washington almost every single day, week ends included, to spend $2,536."

Mr. Powell, who kept shaking his head on hearing these charges, then heard himself accused of cheating on Washington living expenses, with Mr. Robeson charging that where the defendant listed $2.50 in such

Continued on page 11, column 5

expenses, they actually totaled $300.

Mr. Powell, according to the prosecutor, listed practically everything as a legitimate deductible business expense. Mr. Robeson spoke of Mr. Powell's three cars—a Jaguar, a Chrysler and a Cadillac, of his having homes in Mount Vernon, N. Y., and Westhampton Beach, L. I., of having two servants, maintaining two boats.

And in 1951, the prosecutor said, when pianist Hazel Scott, the defendant's wife, earned in excess of $50,000 and he earned in excess of $20,000, he made out her return so that she paid only $590 in taxes. She is not charged with any crime.

And in 1952, when their joint gross income was $90,000 he listed their joint tax liability of $700, Mr. Robeson said. It was the Congressman's practice, according to Mr. Robeson, to write off all entertainment as business expenses—such as the times he dined at Sardi's and 21 or went to the theater or bought pajamas for his son, or made purchases at Abercrombie & Fitch. And any check he cashed in a restaurant, and even the purchase of whisky, pillow cases, furs and jewelry—all this was listed as legitimate deductible items, the prosecutor charged, including his son's private schooling.

Maid Service at $350 Weekly

Also, where Miss Scott paid a maid $50 a week, Mr. Powell put this down at $350 a week over a five-week period, Mr. Robeson said, adding that the Congressman's tax work sheets were prepared by his secretary, Hattie Dodson, who was convicted in 1956 of tax evasion and sentenced to a seven-month term.

Mr. Robeson said:

"This defendant, when income tax time rolled around, was determined to pay the government . . . as little tax as possible and less, much less, than was legitimately owed. He did such a fine job of fraud in accomplishing this result that he was able to overcome the errors of a careless secretary and still prevent his government's taxes from interfering with the high style of living to which he was and is unable to remain accustomed."

In regard to the 1951 tax return of Miss Scott, the prosecutor said, Mr. Powell had a

[illegible] Robeson, after the latter received under fire that year as Internal Revenue Collector for Upper Manhattan. And Mr. [illegible] balked at some of the items, Mr. Robeson said.

And just before Mr. Robeson started his opening statement against Mr. Powell, Judge Bryan decided there was no merit to the defense challenge to the array. In this, Mr. Powell alleged that jurors were not picked from a typical cross-section of the Southern District, which runs up to the Albany line.

If convicted as charged, Mr. Powell, regarded by his followers as a sterling fighter for civil rights, faces up to fifteen years in prison and $30,000 in fines. He is not attending sessions of the House, his presence being needed in court if his trial is to go on.

While the jury proper contains no Negroes, there is a Negro woman among the alternates. Of the three other alternates, one is a Japanese and another is of Spanish descent.

The Powell Jury

The jury, with the first listed being foreman:

HARRY A. EKTER, 3838 Webb Ave., the Bronx, insurance broker.

JAMES F. HILL, 3335 Parkside Place, the Bronx, Consolidated Edison collector.

HAROLD J. HENRY, 940 E. 240th St., the Bronx, estimator, Combustion Engineering Co.

MISS BLANCHE ROSENBERG, 2125 Holland Ave., the Bronx, investor.

MRS. MOLLIE FRANKLIN, 940 Grand Concourse, the Bronx, collection clerk, Plymouth Shops.

MRS. MINNIE MILLER, 511 E. 87th St., housewife.

MRS. ANTOINETTE L. ROSKLIN, 1 Washington Square, housewife.

MRS. ANNE ROSSMAN, 1183 Grand Concourse, the Bronx, housewife.

MRS. FLORENCE L. SILING, 99 Metropolitan Oval, the Bronx, secretary for Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

MRS. GRACE S. SOLOMON, 236 Central Park West, housewife.

MRS. MARY WALTER, 110 W. 48d St., writer-researcher.

MRS. FLORENCE ROGOW, 1123 Midland Ave., Bronxville.

The four alternates:

MRS. JANET HAYES, 280 Convent Ave., clerk, Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

MILTON LACHMAN, 25 Meadowlark Road, Port Chester builder.

RICHARD T. [illegible], [illegible] W. 119th St., [illegible] manager for [illegible].

JOSE [illegible], [illegible], 920 W. 180th St., owner of La Mansion Restaurant, 208 W. 51st St.

Call 1 Tax Gyp Only a Drop in Powell Bucket

By NORMA ABRAMS and NEAL PATTERSON

High-living Rep. Adam Clayton Powell perpetrated income tax frauds "of far greater magnitude" than the $3,063 cited in his indictment, and even deducted $237 for clerical garb when he actually spent only $2.37 for some button-in-the-back collars, the prosecution charged yesterday at Powell's Federal Court trial.

Powell, pastor of Harlem's Abyssinian Baptist Church, not only under-reported income in joint returns for himself and his pianist wife, Hazel Scott, but illegally deducted many thousands of dollars "in a flagrant manner for imaginary and personal expenses," it was asserted.

Assistant U. S. Attorney Morton S. Robson, opening the government's case, told an all-white jury of nine women and three men that Powell had deducted as "expenses" such items as:

Restaurant checks, primarily at Sardi's and 21.

His annual liquor bill of more than $500.

Cost of his son's tuition in a private school.

The cost of two TV sets and maintenance of two boats at Westhampton, L. I.

Insurance and Laundry

His insurance bills, 40% of his laundry bills, 40% of fuel and light bills, all phone bills and

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Hazel Scott

Her income under-reported?

(NEWS foto by Ed Clarity)

Adam Clayton Powell at court yesterday.

theatre tickets, virtually every department store and clothing purchase, including his child's sleepers, and excessive travel and transportation expenses.

Though the pastor-politician and his wife had joint income of [illegible],000 in 1951, the report prepared by Powell showed only $3,815 for Miss Scott, who that year earned $50,000 on concert tours of Europe and the Mideast, said Robson. On her earnings, a tax of only $500.83 was paid.

The prosecutor charged that on Hazel's portion of the return a minimum fraud of $12,000 was committed. On that of Powell—who earned $18,500 as a Congressman and minister, with an additional $2,500 in expenses—the fraud was at least $8,000, according to Robson. Powell, he said, paid about $400 tax.

All blame was placed on Powell by the prosecutor, who exonerated Mrs. Powell.

2 Homes, 3 Cars, 2 Boats

The couple at that time, Robson continued, had two homes, one in Mount Vernon and one at Westhampton, with two servants, three cars—a Jaguar, a Chrysler and a Cadillac—and the two boats.

Powell, Robson said, "was determined to pay almost no tax. He felt that the government should be satisfied with less than $1,000."

The defendant, most powerful Democrat in Harlem, is on trial [illegible] three counts and if convicted

(Continued on page [illegible])

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[illegible] all could get up to 15 years and be fined $10,000.

One count charges fraudulent preparation of his wife's 1951 return. Another alleges an attempt to cheat the government of $1,[illegible] in taxes. The third charges Powell tried to beat the government out of $1,[illegible] in a joint return for 1952.

In 1952, Robson told the jurors, the defendant admitted a tax liability of $700 when the couple's joint income was around [illegible].

The prosecutor was emphatic in clearing Miss Scott, who was not named as a co-defendant in the indictment. "Mrs. Powell had nothing to do with it," he said. "She didn't even sign it. She had gone to Europe a month before."

Went Along as Manager

Continuing his outline of Powell's alleged fraud in 1951, a year in which the Congressman accompanied his wife on her foreign tour, in the role of her business manager, Robson said:

"He claimed $2,500 for living expenses in Washington for four days each week during a 10-month period. But he was only in the United States for eight months. The evidence will show that he spent less than $300.

"He deducted $2,[illegible] in fares between New York and Washington that year. As a Congressman, he was entitled to take off transportation. But it must be remembered he was in Europe four months of the year. The round trip ticket to Washington was $[illegible]. At that rate, he would have had 100 round trips, which in itself is incredible."

But, Robson added, Powell had a clerical pass entitling him to buy tickets at half fare, reducing the cost per trip to a little over $11. So at that rate, Robson pointed out, Powell would have had to make 300 round trips to [illegible] the amount [illegible].

Commenting on the $[illegible] Powell put in as a deduction for clerical garb, the prosecutor said that the defendant at first had proposed to take off $[illegible] for [illegible] but was dissuaded by [illegible]

"The fact is," said Robson, [illegible]

[illegible] expenses and personal purchases.

Robson said that on a five-week tour in this country Hazel took along her personal maid, who received [illegible]. Powell [illegible] only deducted the maid's salary and travel [illegible] every [illegible] for any [illegible] charged [illegible] Robson [illegible] of [illegible] substantiating [illegible] [illegible] lawyer and a former collector of internal revenue. Powell went along with [illegible] suggestion but [illegible] $1,[illegible] be deducted as the expenses of [illegible] Robson [illegible]

$300 for Newspaper Article

The third indictment count alleges Powell made no mention of $3,000 in 1952 income from his church and a $300 check received [illegible]

"All of this was done wilfully, knowingly and fraudulently and by him alone," the prosecutor charged.

The jury was completed about 12:45. Robson began his address two hours later.

In [illegible] peremptory challenges, the government [illegible] the previous day—Adolphus Harriet, an employe of Paramount Pictures. [illegible]

[illegible]

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☐ (b)(4)	☐ (b)(8)	☐ (k)(5)
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FBI/DOJ

POWELL DEFENDS HIS USE OF FRANK

Mailed Cards to Get Support of Race Rally in Harlem—Cites Acts by Eastland

WASHINGTON, March 2 (AP)—Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. acknowledged today that he had used his Congressional franking privilege to muster support for mass picketing of a Harlem variety store Saturday.

The Manhattan Democrat said Southern members of Congress had been "using their frank to promote white Citizens Councils in defiance of the Supreme Court and to promote segregation." He said he was referring to Senator James O. Eastland, Democrat of Mississippi, "and other members of the Senate and House." He declined to name the others.

Mr. Powell said that if the Post Office Department allowed the Southerners to make such use of their mailing privileges, "there is every reason to allow me to use my frank to lead people legally and nonviolently to achieve justice."

He said, however, that he would "be happy to refund to the Post Office whatever amount they claim I owe them, but only when they produce canceled checks of Senator Eastland and others for their use of the frank to perpetuate illegality."

The story of Mr. Powell's use of his frank on postcards for Harlem picketing was disclosed by The New York World-Telegram and The Sun, which quoted New York postal authorities as calling his action "questionable." The officials indicated they would seek a ruling from Washington.

Asked how many cards for promotion of the demonstration had been sent out under his frank, Mr. Powell said:

"I have no idea. The whole thing has been handled by my New York office."

He said the conference was sponsored by the Citywide Leadership Council, which he described as a nonpartisan organization to promote better race relations. Mr. Powell is chairman of the council.

"The cards," he said, "also said that following the conference we would go en masse to picket the Woolworth store at West 125th Street in sympathy with our Southern Negro and white brothers who are staging sitdown strikes."

Mr. Powell said he had used his Congressional free mailing privileges "for sixteen years for all mail in connection with any meeting where I was the speaker."

"Eastland and the others have done the same thing," he said.

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POWELL CLARIFIES HIS USE OF FRANK

WASHINGTON, March 3 (AP) — Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. said today that he had erred in saying he had used his Congressional free-mailing privilege in connection with plans for mass picketing of a Harlem variety store on Saturday.

Yesterday the Manhattan Democrat confirmed published reports that he had used his mailing frank to send out cards to muster support for the demonstration.

Today, however, following protests from his New York office, Mr. Powell said he had been mistaken.

"I was in error," he told a reporter. What happened, he said, was that his office mailed notices Feb. 13 under his frank calling attention to a quarterly conference this Saturday of the Citywide Leadership Council.

Last Monday, Mr. Powell continued, his office sent out press releases announcing plans for picketing of a Harlem Woolworth store following the conference of the leadership council.

Mr. Powell said today he had confused the cards and the press releases. Actually, he said, the notices mentioned only the conference, which is to be held at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, of which Mr. Powell is pastor.

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Court Rules Today On Powell's Move To Win a Mistrial

By FOSTER HAILEY

Judge Frederick van Pelt Bryan heard arguments yesterday on a defense motion for a mistrial in the Federal income-tax evasion proceedings against Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. The judge said he would announce his decision this morning.

He said also that he would rule on two other motions at that time—one by the defense, one by the Government. This defense motion, linked to the one for a mistrial, was for the exclusion of testimony relating to Mr. Powell's 1951 tax return and testimony relating to deductions he claimed both for himself and for his wife, Hazel Scott, in a joint return for 1952.

Mr. Powell is on trial under a 1958 indictment charging him with understating income for his wife, a jazz pianist, in 1951 and for understating the income of both in 1952. He prepared his wife's return in 1951 at a time when she was out of the country. She was not named in the indictment.

Defense Charges 'Surprise'

Edward Bennett William of Washington, chief of defense counsel, argued that the defense had been taken by surprise by the Government's attempt to introduce testimony Monday relating to Mr. Powell's 1951 return and to deductions claimed in 1952.

Neither was mentioned in the 1958 indictment nor in the original bill of particulars and an amended bill filed last December.

If the court ruled against him on his motion for exclusion of such testimony, Mr. Williams said, he was asking for a mistrial to give him time to prepare a defense against what he called the Government's new "thrust."

Morton S. Robson, Chief Assistant United States Attorney, and George I. Gordon, an Assistant United States Attorney, argued for the Government that the defense should have been prepared to meet such an attack. It was introduced to show a "pattern" of fraud, they said.

The Government motion on which Judge Bryan also said he would rule today was to have the court call "as its own witness," Hattie Freeman Dodson. She is Mr. Powell's secretary and helped in preparation of the 1951 and 1952 returns. Mr. Robson said Monday that he feared she would be a recalcitrant and "perhaps even a hostile" witness. She served four months in jail in 1956 for income-tax evasion.

If she is called as a court witness, Mr. Robson would have much more freedom in questioning her.

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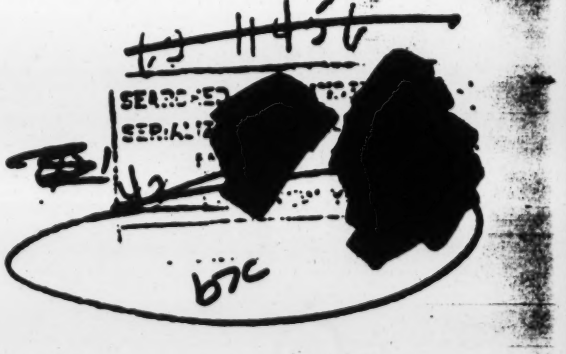

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FILE DESCRIPTION

SUBJECT Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

FILE NUMBER NY 100-22864

VOLUME NUMBER 7

83 pages

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2/13/98